



ELA Virtual Learning

# 11th/Analyzing An Effective Argument

May 04, 2020



11th/English III  
Lesson: May 04, 2020

**Objective/Learning Target:**

Students will analyze what makes an argument effective

# Bell Ringer

Why is it important to be able to analyze both sides of an issue?



# Lesson/Activity

The foundation for this lesson is knowing what goes into a great presentation. Typically, TED Talk presenters follow a typical pattern in their presentations making them great examples to analyze. Check out this [video](#) that explains some of the secrets of making an effective presentation.

# Lesson/Activity

When listening to a presentation or speech, one of the ways the presenter is able to establish credibility is by looking at the holes in their arguments and addressing them. This is especially common when discussing high impact issues.

Acknowledging the other side and providing evidence against it is an effective way to present an argument.

# Lesson/Activity

It is also important to consider the speaker's or presenter's perspective in determining whether the person is credible. A person's point-of-view can provide valuable insight on the argument they are making.

Most importantly, it is crucial to be able to identify the claims and evaluate the evidence that is used to support the speaker's claims.

# Practice

As you watch this [TED Talk](#) video consider the following questions as you evaluate the presenter's speech:

1. What problem is the speaker address?
2. What are some claims the speaker makes in support of the argument that is being made?
3. Does the perspective the speaker provides enhance or detract from the argument?

In a Google Doc, answer these three questions as you determine whether Adora Svitak is making an effective argument.

# Example of a Proficient Answer

(answers will vary)

1. The presenter, Adora Svitak, believes that there are a ton of that adults can learn from kids, specifically when it comes to a kid's imagination unshackling them from to "push the boundaries of possibilities."
2. Svitak cites three child-aged individuals who helped accomplish extraordinary things despite not being an adult. Later in the presentation she explains how restrictions are placed when a fear of losing control is evident. In illustrating this point, Svitak refers to totalitarian regimes and school handbooks as examples.
3. Svitak is a child herself. This fact enhances her argument as she is accomplishing an impressive feat by presenting a TED Talk to a room of adults, the very people she claims can learn kids like herself.



# Additional Resources

Now that we have a foundation, compare the following two speeches. Both speakers are presenting on a similar topic, yet go about it in different ways.

[Video #1](#)

[Video #2](#)

In what ways are the presentations different? How does each speaker go about making an effective argument during their presentations?