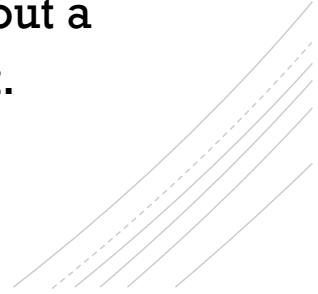


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Counterarguments



Definition

- **Counter-argument:** an argument put forward to oppose an idea developed in an original argument.
 - When you create a counterargument in your essay, you turn against your argument in order to challenge it; then you turn back to reaffirm it.
 - Imagine you are facing a skeptical reader of your paper. Consider how they might resist your argument by pointing out a problem or hole in your argument.
- 

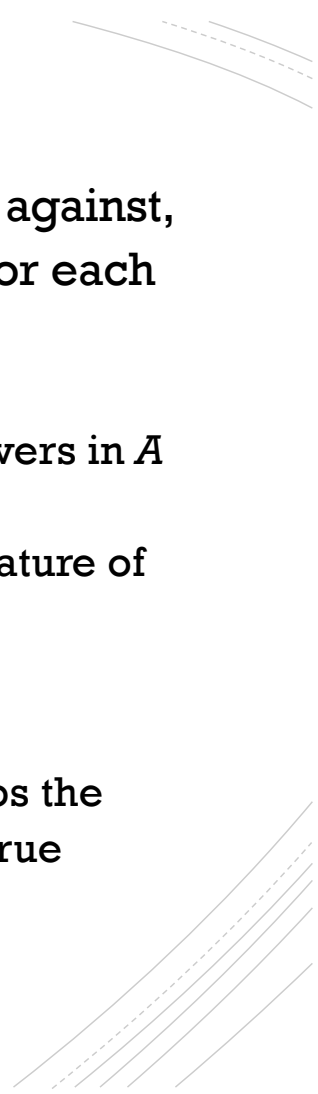


Example

- **Thesis:** “Scout’s tomboyish behavior causes conflict in Maycomb.”
- **Counterargument:** “While many people do not even comment on Scout’s more masculine qualities, her break from traditional gender roles is constantly critiqued by both men and women from Maycomb.”
 - Turn Against – “Many people do not even comment on Scout’s more masculine qualities...”
 - Then Reaffirm – “her break from traditional gender roles is constantly critiqued by both men and women from Maycomb.”



Practice

- Create a counterargument (argue against, then reaffirm the original thesis) for each of the following theses:
 1. The drama between the four lovers in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* demonstrates the destructive nature of love.
 2. The fairies' use of magic in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* keeps the play's characters from finding true happiness.
- 



Phrases to
Introduce a
Counterargument

- *One might object that...*
 - *It might seem that...*
 - *Admittedly,...*
 - *Of course,...*
 - *While some may say...*
 - *Although it is true that...*
- 