Analyzing Arguments



Analyzing arguments in greater depth (more complex questions)

- ► What do you think was the author's purpose in writing this piece?
- ► Are the reasons given convincing? Why or why not? Are there implicit assumptions?
- ► What evidence does the author use to support these reasons, is it credible? Is it biased?
- Are the reasons presented in a logical order, as a line of reasoning? Do the reasons clearly link to one another and to the conclusion/thesis?
- ▶ Does the author make a reasoned evaluation of other people's views that contradict their own? (Does he or she address counterarguments?)
- What are the implications if the reader accepts this argument?



Analyzing Arguments



Putting the argument into context

Does the text or source contain an argument? What are the main idea and the reasons?

Does the evidence provided adequately support the reasons? Is it credible?

Is the main idea (conclusion/thesis) supported? Are there flaws in the reasoning?

What is the author trying to convince the reader of and why? What perspective(s) does the author appear to have

What other perspectives are there? What would be the consequences or implications of accepting the argument

