Argument Essays

The Refutation

Sentence 1: Transition sentence

Counterargument:

Some opponents may argue that social networking sites may harm users.

Transition sentence:

It may be true that +
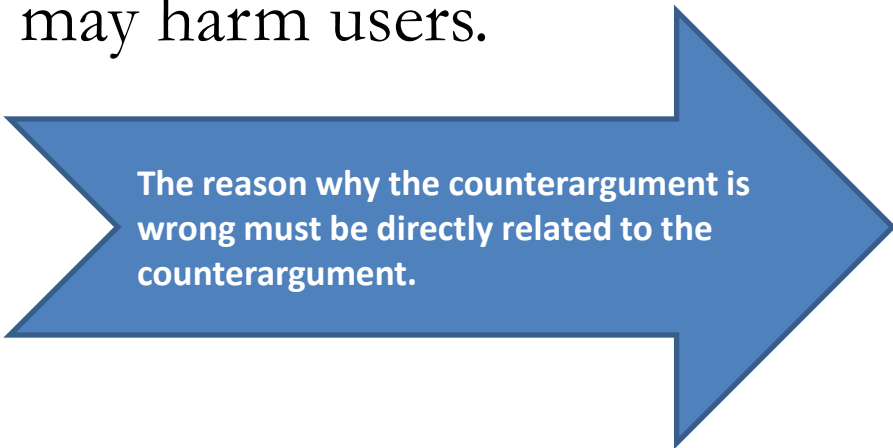*paraphrase of*
counterargument.

It may be true that social networking sites might pose some security risks.

Sentence 2: Topic sentence

Counterargument:

Some opponents may argue that social networking sites may harm users.

The reason why the counterargument is wrong must be directly related to the counterargument.

Topic sentence:

However/Nevertheless + *reason why* *counterargument is wrong*.

However, people can easily protect themselves from these security threats.

Sentence 3: Explain the topic sentence

Topic sentence:

People can easily protect themselves from these security threats.

Explanation:

One of the main ways to do so is by using the privacy settings.

Sentence 4: Add expert evidence

Major support:

One of the main ways to do so is by using the privacy settings.

Do not forget to cite the author and date of publication of the article. If you do not know the author, cite the name of the article. If you do not know the date of publication, write "n.d."

Expert evidence:

According to Edward Jones (2011), the author of the article "How to Use Twitter Safely," people should know how to use the privacy settings.

Sentence 5: Add examples/statistics

Major support:

One of the main ways to do so is by using the privacy settings.

Sentence 4 (statistic)

For example, they can set as who can view their photos, status, videos and other information. Customizing these privacy settings can help people to be secure from hackers (Srinivasin, 2013).

Even if you paraphrase ideas that are not your own, you MUST cite the author and date of publication of the article where you found the information.

Sentence 6: Add analysis sentence

Topic sentence:

People can easily protect themselves from these security threats.

Analysis (inference):

Hence, the problem of security for the users of social networking sites can be solved if people use these sites carefully.

Advice: What to do if you do not have 125-150 words in your paragraph

- Add another major support with its minor supports
- Add more examples
- Add more statistics

Moreover, users of social networking sites need to be careful about whom they are adding to their friend list. People should also be careful before adding any new friends. Jeff Davidson (2011), a member of the Facebook team writes that people should not add any persons as "friends" if they do not know them. In this way they would not have to take the risk of adding an unknown person.

Model argument paragraph

It may be true that social networking sites might pose some security risks. However, people can easily be protected from these security threats. One of the main ways to do so is by using the privacy settings. According to Edward Jones (2011), the author of the article "How to Use Twitter Safely," people should know how to use the privacy settings. For example, they can set who can view their photos, status, videos and other information. Customizing these privacy settings can help people to be secure from hackers (Srinivasin, 2013). Moreover, users of social networking sites need to be careful about whom they are adding to their friend list. People should also be careful before adding any new friends. Jeff Davidson (2011), a member of the Facebook team writes that people should not add any persons as "friends" if they do not know them. In this way they would not have to take the risk of adding an unknown person. Hence, the problem of security for the users of social networking sites can be solved if people use these sites carefully. (181 words)