**Author's Cheat Sheet on Writing**

**Fallacious arguments to use**

- Ad Hominem (Argument To The Man) attack the arguer, not the argument.
- Affirming The Consequent logic reversal, where the conclusion becomes the premise and the premise is now the conclusion.
- Amazing Familiarity: The speaker seems to have information that there is no possible way for him to get.
- Ambiguous Assertion: a statement is made, but it is sufficiently unclear that it leaves some sort of leeway.
- Appeal To / Argument From [Anonymous|False|?] Authority/Character
- Appeal To Coincidence, Or To Complexity, Or To Force: fact due to chance, no understanding so all opinions O.K., threats
- Appeal To Pity (Appeal To Sympathy, The Galileo Argument) because of concern for their belief.
- Appeal To Widespread Belief (Bandwagon Argument, Peer Pressure, Appeal To Common Practice)
- Argument By Emotive Language (Appeal To The People) use of emotionally loaded words to sway the audience
- Argument By Generalization: drawing broad conclusion from a few perhaps unrepresentative cases
- Argument By Gibberish (Bafflement) where an invective vocabulary is helpful – combine words to add complexity
- Argument By Half Truth (Suppressed Evidence) “this is hard to detect, you have to ask questions and do some digging”
- Argument By Laziness (Argument By Uninformed Opinion) author is uninformed but wants you to trust him anyway
- Argument By Pigheadedness (Doggedness) refusing to accept something that others have found sufficient evidence for
- Argument By Poetic Language “if it sounds good, it must be right”
- Argument By Prestigious Jargon: use of technical vocabulary seen so much as an expert’s
- Argument By Question, or By Rhetorical Question asking a question in a way that elicits some specific response
- Argument By Repetition (Argument Ad Nauseam) if you say something enough, people will believe it
- Argument By Scenario making a story that ties unrelated things together, then claiming they are therefore related – they are in story
- Argument By Selective Observation: counting the hits and forgetting the misses
- Argument By Selective Reading: making it seem like the weakest of the opposing arguments happens to be the best to deserialize
- Argument By Slogan if it is short and connected to an argument, it must be the argument
- Argument From Adverse Consequences (Appeal To Fear, Scare Tactics) this is wrong b/c else bad things happen
- Argument From Age (Wisdom of the Ancient) argument that old/new arguments are better (“New and Improved”)
- Argument From Small Numbers: assumption that small numbers are the same as big numbers
- Argument From Spurious Similarity: resemblance as proof of relationship
- Argument Of The Beard: “continuum – both extremes the same”
- Argument To The Future: argument that one day evidence will be discovered which will then support your argument
- Bad Analogies: claiming that two situations are highly similar, when they are not.
- Begging The Question (Assuming The Answer, Tautology) reasoning in a circle – the premise is the conclusion
- Burden Of Proof: claim that whatever is not proven true/false must be true/false (pick one)
- Causal Reductionism (Complex Cause) trying to use one cause to explain something which really has many causes
- Changing The Subject (Digression, Red Herring, Misdirection, False Emphasis) useful to avoid making claims
- Cliche Thinking using a well-known saying as an example, as if it is perfect
- Claiming Common Sense “pay attention, I am about to tell you something that inexperienced people often get wrong.”
- Complex Question (Typing): unrelated points are treated as if they should be accepted or rejected together
- Confusing Correlation And Causation: correlation of numerical results is somehow made to imply causative relationship
- Disproof By Fallacy if a conclusion can be reached in an obviously fallacious way, then the conclusion is incorrectly declared wrong
- Euphemism: use of a word to sound better in order to avoid objections
- Equivocation using a word to mean one thing, and then later using it to mean something different
- Error Of Fact stating some fact which is not true
- Exception That Proves The Rule: some think that this saying allows you to ignore exceptions
- Excluded Middle (False Dichotomy, Faulty Dilemma, Bifurcation) incorrectly assuming there are only two alternatives
- Extended Analogy: the claim that two things, both analogous to a third thing, are therefore analogous to each other.
- Failure To State if you make enough attacks/ask enough questions, you may never have to actually define your own position re: topic
- Fallacy Of Composition, or of Division: what is true of the whole is true of the parts, or vice versa, or whole is simple as parts
- Fallacy Of The General Rule: assuming that something true in general is true in every possible case
- Fallacy Of The Crucial Experiment: claiming that some idea has been proved (or disproved) by a pivotal discovery
- False Cause assuming that because two things happened, the first one caused the second one
- False Conclusion in confusing debates, a must be fair to the difference, and there is only a comparison between the opinions
- Genetic Fallacy (Fallacy Of Origins, Fallacy Of Virtue): particular origin of argument/arguer makes argument right/wrong
- Having Your Cake (Failure To Assert, or Diminished Claim) almost claiming something, but backing out
- Hypothesis Contrary To Fact arguing from something that might have happened, but didn’t
- Inconsistency saying that one thing causes another in some particular case, but the same cause is not the reason in another situation
- Inflation Of Conflict arguing that scholars debate a certain point
- Internal Contradiction saying two contradictory things in the same argument
- Least Plausible Hypothesis ignoring all of the most reasonable explanations
- Lies: intentional Errors of Fact
- Meaningless Questions do I really have to define this for you?
- Misunderstanding The Nature Of Statistics “99% of all statistics are made up on the spot”
- Moving The Goalsposts (Raising The Bar, Argument By Demanding Impossible Perfection) solve further point
- Needing simply attempting to make the other person angry, without trying to address the argument at hand
- Non Sequitur something that does not follow
- Not Invented Here ideas from elsewhere are made unwelcome
- Outdated Information information is given, but it is not the latest
- Pious Fraud: a fraud done to accomplish some good end, on the theory that the end justifies the means
- Poisoning The Wells discrediting the sources used by your opponent, form of Ad Hominem
- Psychogenetic Fallacy if you make up a psychological reason why somebody makes an argument then his argument is biased/wrong
- Reductio Ad Absurdum showing that opponent’s argument leads to absurd conclusion, can easily be abused
- Reductive Fallacy (Oversimplification)
- Redlying: an abstract thing is talked about as if it were concrete
- Short Term Versus Long Term: the argument that something must come first, related to the Excluded Middle fallacy
- Slippery Slope Fallacy (Camel's Nose) the assumption that something is wrong because it can become wrong / is near wrongs
- Special Pleading (Stacking The Deck) using the arguments that support your position, but ignoring others
- Statement Of Conversion using confusion from somebody that has been converted from beliefs, weakly asserting expertise
- Stolen Concept using what you are trying to disprove
- Straw Man (Fallacy Of Extension) attacking an exaggerated or caricatured version of your opponent's position
- Two Wrongs Make A Right (Tu Quoque, You Too) “it’s not wrong because others do wrong things”

**Writing tactics**

- Alliteration: repetition of sound within short intervals
- Anacoluth: abrupt syntax change in sentence
- Anadiplosis: ending word repeated at start of next line
- Anaphora: repetition of same word in succession
- Anastrophe: reversal of usual grammatical order for effect
- Antistrope: repetition of words in reverse order
- Antithesis the juxtaposition of contrasting ideas for balance
- Aporia: insoluble contradiction or paradox
- Aposiopesis abrupt end, portrays overcoming with emotion
- Apostrophe directly addressing absent person/ideal/object
- Archaisms word/expressions no longer in use
- Assonance: repetition of vowel sounds within short passage
- Assent/ To list words or phrases but w/o conjunctions
- Brachylogy: condensed expression, like elipses
- Caustic: use of unpleasant sounding words to jar reader
- Catachresis inappropriate metaphor/unnatural
- Chiasmus: reverse parallelism, elements of 2nd are reversed
- Climax: word/phrases/clauses ordered of increasing importance
- Euphemism: use of less offensive substitute
- Hendiadys: use of conjuncted nouns not noun & modifier
- Hyppallage: reversal of the syntactic relation of 2 words
- Hyperbaton: disruption of usual word order
- Hyperbole: deliberate exaggeration/overstatement
- Hystero-Proporion of greater importance goes first
- Irony: a meaning concealed behind apparent meaning of phrase
- Litotes: inverse hyperbole, calculated understatement
- Metaphor: comparison between 2 seemingly unrelated things
- Metonymy: reference concept by attribute of it
- Nominalisation: pronoun proposition becomes a noun
- Oxymoron: combination of contradictory terms
- Paradox: self-contradicting statement
- Parallelism: phrases w/ similar structure & meaning
- Paraprosdokian: unexpected ending to series of phrases
- Paronomasia: pun – confusion of similar-sounding words
- Personification: giving human characteristics to inanimate things
- Pleonasm: use of more words than necessary
- Polysemantic repetitions of conjunctions
- Praetextus: emphasis on something via pretending not to
- Prolepsis: anticipation of action (results beforehand)
- Simile: shows resemblance between different things
- Syllepsis word modifies others w/ diff. modifications - incongruity
- Synecdoche metaphor w/ parts standing for the whole
- Synthesis: agreement of words according to logic, not grammar
- Tautology: useless repetition w/ no new information
- Zeugma: grammatical relation to 2+ terms w/ diff. applications

**Adjective**

- modifies nouns or pronoun
- Article: type of adjective which makes a noun specific or indefinite
- Subordinate clause: conjunction ties new clause
- Adverb: modifies verb or adverb
- Adverbial: word that the pronoun stands for
- Appositive: describes the noun
- Elliptical clause: some words left out to avoid repetition
- Fragment: not a complete thought
- Gerund: verb ending in -ing used as a noun
- Indefinite pronouns: no specification of what it replaces
- Light: two connected symbols to indicate sound
- Nominalisation: noun – subject
- Participle: – used as an adjective
- Predicate: relates to the subject
- Proposition: relates nouns and pronouns to other words in the sentence
- Pronoun: the place of the noun
- Relative pronoun: “relates” a subordinate clause to the rest of the sentence
- Schwa: the vowel sound in many lightly pronounced unaccented syllables
- Stilted: writing with long, overblown words
- Superlative: adjectives or adverbs ending in “-est” or modified by “most”

**Bloom’s taxonomy**

- Acquisitions (see: knowledge) anything that is taught
- Comprehension: comprehends, converts, defends, distinguishes, estimates, explains, extends, generalizes, gives examples, infers, interprets, paraphrases, predicts, rewrites, summarizes, translates
- Application: applies, changes, computes, constructs, demonstrates, discovers, manipulates, modifies, operates, predicts, prepares, produces, relates, shows, solves, tests
- Analysis: analyzes, breaks down, compares, contrasts, diagrams, deconstructs, differentiates, discriminates, distinguishes, evaluates, illustrates, infers, relates, selects, separates
- Synthesis: categorizes, combines, compiles, composes, creates, devices, designs, explains, generates, modifies, organizes, plans, rearranges, constructs, reorganizes, rewrites, summaries, tells, writes
- Evaluation: appraises, compares, concludes, compares, critiques, defends, describes, discriminates, evaluates, explains, interprets, justifies, relates, summarizes, supports