

How to Write a Counterclaim:

**-Transition into opposition paragraph – INSTEAD OF YOUR TOPIC SENTENCE**

- **Background information or topic sentence explanation**

-Lead up to quote / quote (evidence)

- Explanation

- Analysis

**- HOWEVER sentence**

THESIS: RALPH IS A GREAT LEADER BECAUSE HE HAS COMPASSION AND COURAGE.

-Jack is a better leader.

**-Ralph is a bad leader.**

However, while uncertainty may make Ralph seem a weaker leader, the truth his compassion and courage speak louder and many more times do we see this attributes.

However, his uncertainty is more a sign of vulnerability and question his actions and showing that he thinks before he acts—which is a quality of a good leader.

COUNTERCLAIM EXAMPLE (EX: You are arguing that Ralph is a better leader and must argue Jack as the better leader, or Ralphs Faults:

While it is clear that Ralph shows the attributes of **courage** and **compassion**, some may argue that his **uncertainty** leads him to be a weaker leader. Many scenes show Ralph acting courageous and compassionate, but at times he shows his disadvantages specially his inability to decide what to do. One scene where we see his uncertainty rise is when he discusses what to do with the conch and says, “I should give it away! I’m scared!” (Golding 2930290323032). In this scene Ralph wants to give away the conch because he is scared that he is a bad leader. The truth is it requires a good leader to do what is

difficult and not to fold under pressure which is exactly what Ralph does in this scene. Golding shows us that a great leader might question himself, but shouldn't break down and want to give up. <NEW QUOTE> NEW EXPLANATION. NEW ANALYSIS. So while Ralph does show signs of apathy and uncertainty, many more times he shows his courage and compassion and willingness to do right in the face of adversity, thus he is a better leader than anyone else.

#### CONCLUSION:

- RESTATE / REWORD – thesis statement Because he shows his compassion towards Piggy and the little ones and Smon, and his courage when he stands up to Jack.
- Restate the hook. Ralph is everything a good leader needs to be. Ralph is the heart of a good leader.
- Final concluding thought – make me nod in approval

There are many scenes where Ralph shows an unwillingness to do what is necessary. In one pivotal scene where Ralph decides not to blow the conch because he is timid, uncertain and afraid, and says, "I don't want to blow the conch. I hate the conch. I hate this island. I'm afraid" (Golding 53). In this scene <EXPLAIN>. <ANALYSIS> <NEW QUOTE WITH LEAD UP> <EXPLAIN> <ANALYSIS> <However, while Ralph shows signs of weakness—he shows many more signs of compassion and courage that trump his weakness and show him as a strong leader.>

#### <CONCLUSION>

- Restate of hook
- Restate / reword of thesis: Ralph is truly a commanding presence that leads them to their best possible course of action—while many might argue he is a weak leader, his compassion and courage shows his true resilience and ability to lead.
- A final statement where I want to nod my head in approval. Deep down, what it takes to be a leader may seem easy, but what we can see is that when faced with many hard choices over and over again—Ralph makes the right decision, and tries, and that's all we can ask of a great leader.

\*MUST HAVE – 2-3 quotes for counter

3 times that you will punctuation inside the quotation:

- Question mark
- Exclamation mark
- ...