WALT identify the features of a balanced argument.

WILF:

- Identify the structure of an argument.
- Identify the vocabulary choices in an argument.
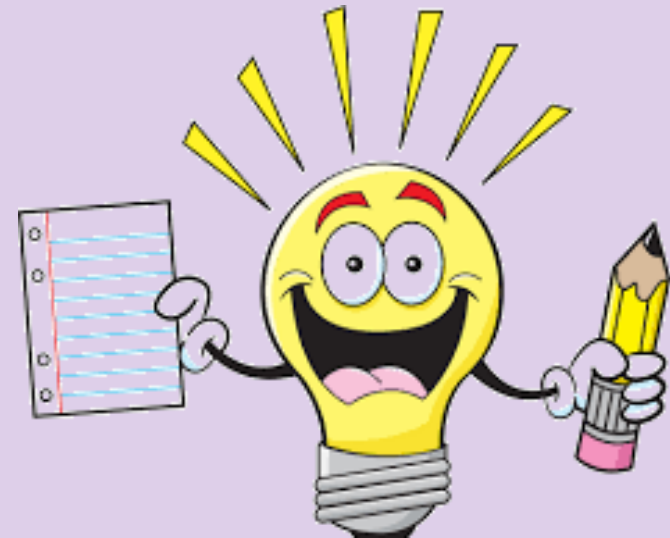- Explain the uses of each feature.

"SPAG-tacular" Relative Pronouns

Recap:

What are the different relative pronouns?

Think of three and write each in a sentence.

What is a balanced argument?

A balanced argument is a discussion where you consider both sides of an issue.

If you only talk about one side of the argument, it is not balanced.

For every point made, there should be a hint to the other side of the argument.

For example, if I talked about deforestation,
I could argue that it reduces animal habitats, then recognise
that it allows more space for human habitats.

Today we are boxing up the features of a balanced argument.

First, pick out the features.

The opening paragraph introduces the argument.

It contains opposing views of for and against.

There is evidence to support your arguments. 🟨

There is a concluding paragraph that includes the writer's own opinion.

It is interestingly written.

It is written in the third person (except final paragraph).

The final paragraph is written in the first person.

It is written using formal and technical language.

It contains a mixture of causal conjunctions and adverbials that have been used correctly.

against

for

Has the time come to ban cars from the centre of towns and cities?

Global warming caused by pollution has begun to affect us directly, with climate change starting to affect British weather. Some people believe the time has come for drastic action to reduce pollution caused by heavy traffic.

There is no doubt that traffic fumes are a major cause of pollution throughout the developed world, and are a particular problem in large towns and cities. In a small country like the UK, cities are close enough together to cause high levels of traffic fume pollution in the air over large areas of the land. Consequently, health problems are created such as asthma, which has rapidly increased as the number of cars on the road has risen. An additional problem in urban areas is congestion, which wastes time and adds to costs. The average speed of traffic in central London is now only 12 miles per hour, the same as it was in Victorian times. A ban on cars in the centre of large towns and cities would therefore seem sensible as it would cut pollution thereby improving health. It would also reduce congestion, allowing buses, emergency vehicles and delivery trucks to be more efficient.

On the other hand, it could be argued that such a ban would create other problems. Public transport in this country is expensive and sometimes unreliable. Would there be enough trains and buses to cope with the numbers needing them? Furthermore, there is also the issue of personal freedom. Is it right to prevent people from choosing the mode of transport they prefer? Many people feel safer in their cars when travelling at night than they do on a bus or a train.

While there is clearly an urgent need to cut pollution, this could be achieved by developing cleaner fuels and electrically powered cars, and encouraging people to use public transport where possible, rather than forcing them to do so.

Title	A question summarising the issue being discussed. Key words: *ban, cars, towns, cities*.
Introduction	**First paragraph** States scientific facts that have given rise to the question in the title.
Argument	**Paragraph 2** For a ban. 1st sentence gives facts which underpin all arguments in favour of a ban. 2nd sentence makes the general argument more specific (worse in UK). 3rd sentence introduces a new argument (health). 4th and 5th sentences add another argument with supporting evidence. 6th and 7th sentences summarise why a ban would be effective.
	Paragraph 3 Against a ban. 1st sentence contests all arguments in Paragraph 2 with a contradictory assertion. 2nd sentence makes a claim that is specific to the UK. 3rd sentence elaborates on this. 4th sentence introduces a new argument. 5th sentence elaborates on this by citing an example.
Conclusion	**Final paragraph** Sentence acknowledges the facts stated in the opening sentence of the introduction, and suggests alternative solutions to the problem.

Whoa.

Has the time come to ban cars from the centre of towns and cities?

Third person — *Language of debate*

Global warming caused by pollution (has begun) to affect us directly, with climate change starting to affect British weather. (Some people believe) the time has come for drastic action to reduce pollution caused by heavy traffic. — *Present tense generally used*

Language of debate: strong assertion — *Technical language*

(There is no doubt) that traffic fumes are a (major cause of pollution) throughout the developed world, and are a particular problem in large towns and cities. In a small country like the UK, cities are close enough together to cause high levels of traffic fume pollution in the air over large areas of the land. (Consequently) health problems are created such as asthma, which has rapidly increased as the number of cars on the road has risen. An additional problem in urban areas is congestion, which wastes time and adds to costs. The average speed of traffic in central London is now only (12 miles per hour,) the same as it was in Victorian times. A ban on cars in the centre of large towns and cities (would) (therefore) seem sensible as it (would) cut pollution thereby improving health. It (would) also reduce congestion, allowing buses, emergency vehicles and delivery trucks to be more efficient.

Connective suggests causal link

Connective

Statistics to reinforce

Conditional form suggests hypothesis

Connective phrase — *Formal language of debate*

(On the other hand,) (it could be argued that) such a ban (would) create other problems. Public transport in this country is expensive and sometimes unreliable. Would there be enough trains and buses to cope with the numbers needing them? (Furthermore) there is also the issue of personal freedom. Is it right to prevent people from choosing the mode of transport they prefer? Many people feel safer in their cars when travelling at night than they do on a bus or a train.

Use of questions to provoke debate

Connective

Connective

(While) there is clearly an urgent need to cut pollution, this (could be achieved) by developing cleaner fuels and electrically powered cars, and encouraging people to use public transport where possible, rather than forcing them to do so.

Complex sentence

Passive voice

Conditional form suggests hypothesis

Then look in detail at both the text and the words. Box yours up like this.

Your Activity:

Please use the 'T6. **Week 4. English. Tuesday Box Up Text**'.

Box up the different features from the **T6. Week 4. English. Balanced Argument Features'** and label them.

Highlight interesting vocabulary – why is it important?

+ Explain the use of each feature.