

## English – Monday – Friday

### Monday

We are going to work on writing a balanced argument to answer the question: **Should the government do more to reduce food waste?**



To remind you of what a balanced argument is, watch the following video:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zm3nvcw>

Then, I would like you to draw the following table in your book:

<u>Reasons the government SHOULD do more to reduce food waste</u>	<u>Reasons the government SHOULDN'T do more to reduce food waste.</u>

Over the next two days, you need to read pages 1 – 5 of the information pack which can be found attached on the website. As you read it, make bullet points in your table as arguments for and against governments reducing food waste.

This will probably take quite a while so you may want to stop halfway and carry on tomorrow!

## Tuesday

If you stopped reading pages 1-5 yesterday before getting to the end, carry on reading today and making notes in your table.

Revisit the video from yesterday and start it at around 3 minutes 10 seconds. Write down any language that you think will help your balanced argument:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zm3nvcw>

See if you can think anymore. If not scroll down below this picture for a few extra ideas!



**Also** *further more* however but  
although on the other hand **in spite**  
**of this** *because* **IN**  
**COMPARISON**  
alternatively other than  
except

### **Wednesday**

Today and Thursday, you will write your balanced argument. Just before you start, let's revisit our favourite Lady Macbeth balanced argument.



**Read the Lady Macbeth argument (on the next page). Think about the following questions:**

How is it structured?  
What's included in the introduction?  
What's included in the conclusion?  
What person and tense is it in?

Once you have finished, you can start writing your own! You might just want to focus on your introduction and first paragraph today. I've written a paragraph you might want to magpie from. Can you see how I have used the Lady Macbeth introduction to help structure mine?

**Example opening paragraph:**

The issue of food waste has caused much debate amongst environmentalists over the years as they believe the government should be doing more to help. It's a challenging argument that has sparked intense feelings from both sides. Some people argue that it is up to the individual to reduce food waste and they should be planning their meals more carefully. Others think the government should be providing more education and support for people and businesses in order to help save the planet. In this essay I will explore both points of view.

### **Is Lady Macbeth good or evil?**

For many years, there has been much debate concerning the issue of Lady Macbeth being good or evil. It is a contentious argument that has sparked strong feelings from both sides. Some people argue that she is a kind-hearted wife, who only desires the best for her husband, whereas others think that she is a callous, power-hungry woman who drives her husband to becoming a serial killer. This essay will attempt to explore both points of view.

Some people think that Lady Macbeth is just another victim in William Shakespeare's famous tragedy and is entirely blameless for the disastrous events that unfolded. This is because, like Macbeth, she is under the curse of the three witches (the real villains of the play) and is therefore controlled by them. Throughout the story, Lady Macbeth talks about destiny and fulfilling a prophecy, rather than making decisions for herself. Another reason Lady Macbeth is good, according to her supporters, is that she does not actually murder anyone, unlike Macbeth. The worst thing she does is provide a sleeping potion in a jug of wine for the king's guards, which is hardly a serious crime. Instead of being a killer, she is simply being a dutiful wife and supporting her husband's dearest wish to be King. Even when things are doomed for Macbeth, she is loyal to him right until the end. This is yet another example of her being honourable and true. In addition, if Lady Macbeth was completely evil, would she feel guilty about what she had done? At the end of the play, she kills herself, because she is so guilt-ridden, she is unable to live with herself. Are these the feelings and actions of someone who is completely wicked?

On the other hand, many people argue that Lady Macbeth is an evil character, who is completely in control of not only her own actions but also her husband's. Their explanation for this is that Lady Macbeth never actually meets the witches, unlike Macbeth. In addition, although Lady Macbeth does not murder the king, it is her idea to kill him. To make matters worse, her idea is premeditated, because she has already poisoned the king's guards when she tries to persuade her husband to kill him. Would Macbeth have actually gone through with his crimes, had she not been so forceful with her venomous powers of persuasion? Furthermore, she may not kill anyone, but she orchestrates the torture of the guards, so they implicate King Duncan's sons in his murder. Surely torture is as terrible as murder! Some people believe that Lady Macbeth certainly is not a dutiful wife who wants the best for her husband, but instead is full of self-ambition. Had she wanted the best for him, would she have put him at risk of being accused of treason? According to her opponents, Lady Macbeth is anything but honourable and true, because she frequently lies to cover up her crimes. For example, she smears the guards' faces with King Duncan's blood to make them look blameable and she lies that her husband is telling jokes, when in reality he is going insane.

In conclusion, as you can see, there are strong arguments for both viewpoints and therefore no one can deny that Lady Macbeth is indeed a divisive character! Although she does not

actually kill anyone, she is instrumental in many of the play's deaths and is willing to go to great lengths to disguise her crimes. As a result, I think that Lady Macbeth is an evil character, who not only commits wicked deeds herself, but persuades others to do so as well.

### **Thursday**

Continue with your balanced argument today. If you get to the conclusion, remember to include what you personally think too.

Once you have finished, underline or highlight any of the features of a balanced argument that you have used. E.g. sentence starters, rhetorical questions.

If you don't manage to finish today you can continue tomorrow. If you've finished and you're happy with your writing (remember to edit and improve) then you can complete the extension task on Friday.

### **Friday**

Today, you will either be finishing your balanced argument or tackling the extension task.

### **Extension Task**

You can now write your very own balanced argument on anything of your choice! You just need to think of the topic and some arguments for and against. You can use all the features and language we have used earlier this week.

If you can't think of anything to write about here's 10 ideas:

1. School lessons shouldn't finish until 5' o clock.
2. Everybody should be given free chocolate off the Government.
3. Mobile phones should be allowed in school.
4. Having neat handwriting is important.
5. Watching television is a waste of time.
6. Star Wars should be taught about in school.
7. Dogs are better than cats.
8. ipads are better than computers.

9. McDonalds should be banned.

10. Films are just as good as books.