

Reading Skill

ANALYZE AN ARGUMENT

The central point of an argument is its **claim**, the writer’s position on an issue. To convince readers that a claim is valid, a writer must offer **support**, which usually consists of

- reasons that explain or justify an action, belief, or decision
- evidence such as facts, examples, statistics, or the views of experts

Directions: Complete this chart to analyze Huxley’s argument. First, summarize his basic claim. Then present four example of support he provides. Finally, present your overall evaluation of the argument’s validity.

Huxley’s Argument

Support

Whether or Not It Is Persuasive

My Evaluation