

The Pearl

Writing Focus: Argumentative Letter Writing

Kino has a big decision to make about the pearl. He feels the local pearl buyers are cheating him out of a fair price. He can give up and get rid of the pearl, keeping his family safe, or he can try to sell the pearl in the capital, leaving his family's future uncertain.

Letter Format

Dear _____,

Sincerely,
Your Name

Name _____ Period _____

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Argumentative Letter Planning Graphic Organizer

Introductory Paragraph		
<i>Introduce Yourself</i>	<i>State Your Argument</i>	<i>Explain why Kino should heed your advice (suggested if...then...format)</i>
Body Paragraph #1		
<i>Reason # 1:</i>		
<i>Detail #1</i>	<i>Detail #2</i>	<i>Detail #3</i>
Body Paragraph #2		
<i>Reason # 2:</i>		
<i>Detail #1</i>	<i>Detail #2</i>	<i>Detail #3</i>
Body Paragraph #3		
<i>Reason # 3:</i>		
<i>Detail #1</i>	<i>Detail #2</i>	<i>Detail #3</i>
Concluding Paragraph		
<i>Restate your argument...</i>	<i>Summarize your Reasons</i>	<i>Impact Statement (What could happen if Kino doesn't listen to you?)</i>

Directions: Now, on your own paper, generate your letter using the details above. When complete, share your response with a small group and determine how many people support Kino traveling to the capital and how many do not. What are the best reasons for each argument within your group? Have a group discussion to summarize your findings and then report out to the class.