

Developing Persuasive Argument through Ethical Inquiry: Two Prewriting Strategies

Lesson Overview Discussion Questions

Directions: This handout is for teachers to use to develop an 'overview' of the ethics lesson for their students. Teachers should do the following with the handout:

1. Answer the questions on the handout;
2. Use the questions to guide a whole class discussion;
3. Share their answers to the questions with the class AFTER students have first tried to answer the questions themselves.

Lesson Overview Discussion/Lecture Questions

1. What does the word ethics mean to you? (Possible answers could include: being a good person, doing what is right, doing no harm...)
2. Where do ethics come from? (Possible answers could include: from my church, from my parents, from my teachers, from a text like the Bible or the Koran or the Torah...)
3. Why is it important to use ethical behavior when writing persuasively? (Possible answers include: it will give me more to write about, the audience will trust my advice, the audience will do what I suggest, it is personally important to me to do the right thing, I want others to be proud of my work...)