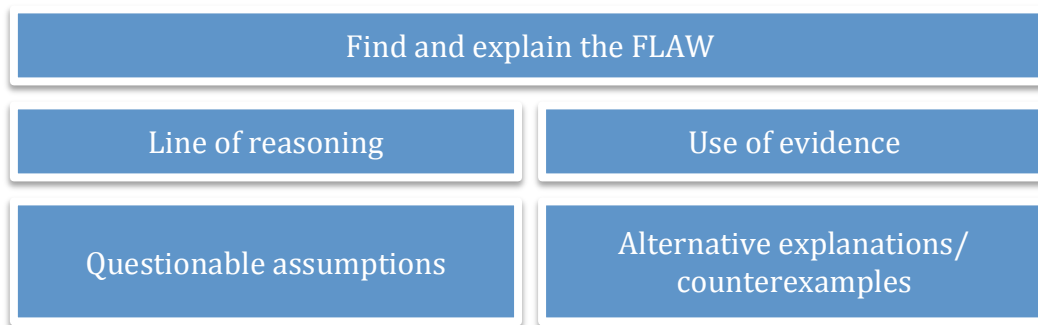


Analytical Writing Assessment (AWA)



Brainstorm

1. Alternative causes
 - a. Correlation \neq Causation
 - b. After \neq Because
 - c. Future \neq Past
2. Unforeseen consequences
 - a. Nothing's perfect
 - i. What could go wrong
 - ii. Does it go far enough
 - b. Isn't it ironic
 - i. Bad side effects
 - c. Skill & Will: People are involved
3. Faulty use of evidence
 - a. Limited sample
 - b. Troubled analogy
 - c. What it really means
4. Faulty use of language
 - a. Extreme, Vague
 - b. Percents vs. Quantities

Structure of the Essay

1. Introduction
 - a. Restate the argument briefly
 - b. Controlling point
 - i. „The point is flawed, in that ...
... evidence provided fails to
... the argument makes numerous unwarranted assumptions
2. Body
 - a. Describe 3-5 specific flaws
3. Conclusion
 - a. Recap briefly how the argument is flawed
 - b. Mention fixes you haven't already mentioned.

Choose your words – and vary them

Focus attention	As for, Regarding, In reference to
Add to previous point	Furthermore, Moreover, In addition, As well as, Also, Likewise, too
Provide contrast	On the one hand/ On the other hand, While, Rather, Instead, In contrast, Alternatively
... conceding contrast	Granted, It is true that, Certainly, Admittedly, Despite, Though
... emphatic contrast	But, However, Even so, All the same, Still, That said, Nevertheless, Nonetheless, Yet, Otherwise, Despite
Dismiss previous point	In any event, In any case
Point out similarity	Likewise, In the same way
Structure the discussion	First, Second, etc., To begin with, Next, Finally, Again
Give example	For example, For instance, In particular
Generalize	In general, To a great extent, Broadly speaking
Sum up	In conclusion, In Brief, Overall, Except for, Besides
Indicate logical result	Therefore, Thus, As a result, So, Accordingly, Hence
Indicate logical cause	Because, Since, As, Resulting from
Restate for clarity	In other words, That is, Namely, So to speak
Hedge or soften position	Apparently, At least, Can, Could, May, Might, Should, Possibly, Likely
Strengthen position	After all, Must, Have to, Always, Never, etc.
Introduce surprise	Actually, In fact, Indeed
Reveal author's attitude	Fortunately, Unfortunately, So called

Substance words

Argument is good	sound, persuasive, thorough, convincing, logical, compelling, credible, effective, airtight, watertight
Argument is bad	flawed, defective, imperfect, faulty, fallacious, unpersuasive, unconvincing, ineffective, takes a logical leap, erroneous, invalid, misleading
Flaw	Defect, Omission, Fault, Error, Imperfection, Concern, Issue, Opportunity for improvement
Assess an argument	judge, evaluate, critique, examine, weigh
Strengthen an argument	support, reinforce, improve, fortify, justify, address, fix, reduce defects
Weaken an argument	undermine, damage, harm, impair, remove support for, disprove, obliterate

Introduction

The author proposes plan X to accomplish goal Y

The statement ... simply describes This alone does not constitute a logical argument ... and it certainly does not provide support or proof ...

This plan is fundamentally flawed, in that ...

... the evidence provided fails to support the author's claim

... the argument is riddled with serious logical gaps

... the argument makes numerous unwarranted assumptions

The author proposes [plan] to accomplish [goal]. This plan simply describes [plan in detail]. This alone does not constitute a logical argument and it certainly does not provide support or proof that the wanted goal is achievable. Furthermore this plan is fundamentally flawed, in that [e.g.: the argument makes numerous unwarranted assumptions].

Body**Conclusion**

In summary ...

To address the problems in the argument, one would have to ...

In summary the author fails to consider [the connection between several aspects]. To address the problems described in the statement, one would have to [describe solutions].