**Counterargument Class Challenge**

**Claim:**

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**Counterargument:** You **turn against your argument** to challenge it. You first imagine a skeptical reader, or cite an actual source, who might resist your argument by pointing out

* + a problem with your demonstration, e.g. that a different conclusion could be drawn from the same facts, a key assumption is unwarranted, a key term is used unfairly, certain evidence is ignored or played down;
  + one or more disadvantages or practical drawbacks to what you propose;
  + an alternative explanation or proposal that makes more sense.

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**Responses to Counterargument -** *turn back to re-affirm your claim*—which you announce with a *but, yet, however, nevertheless or still*—must likewise involve careful reasoning, not a flippant (or nervous) dismissal. In reasoning about the proposed counter-argument, you may

* + Deny- Tell why the counterargument is not true
  + Reverse- Tell why the counterargument helps your claim
  + Minimize- Agree with the counterargument but say why it is not very important
  + Outweigh- Agree with the counterargument but argue a supporting warrant is more important

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