At a Glance
- Examining two sides of an issue, such as censorship or global warming
- Developing persuasive arguments in a debate
- Listing arguments from both sides of a controversial issue in order to recognize opposing viewpoints

Differentiated Instruction: Lesson 2
For advanced students, offer the option of writing an editorial that could appear in the school newspaper.

LESSON 1 SUPPORT FOR READING
Step-by-Step Strategy
1. Choose an issue from a persuasive selection that looks at one or both sides of an issue.
2. Display the graphic organizer for the students, and enter a position statement in the appropriate blank.
3. Have students read the selection to find supporting arguments and counterarguments and enter these on the graphic organizer.
4. Ask students to write a paragraph explaining their view of the issue. Have them cite evidence from the selection as support for their opinions.

LESSON 2 SUPPORT FOR WRITING
Step-by-Step Strategy
1. Have students choose an issue that affects them, such as limiting cell phone use during school.
2. Use the Controversial Issue graphic organizer to model the evidence for and against an issue of your choosing. Tell students to investigate their own topics and choose a position.
3. Hand out copies of the Controversial Issue graphic organizer or have students access one online. Tell students to list the supporting arguments and counter-arguments in the appropriate columns.
4. Have students write a personal essay that explains their position, gives details that support their arguments, and addresses any counter-arguments.
5. Give students this format for their writing assignment.
   - State a position on the issue.
   - Discuss the details supporting your position. Save the most convincing details for last.
   - Explain why the counter-arguments should not affect anyone’s position on the issue.
   - Draw a conclusion in favor of your position.