# **Defend your position**

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| **1. Present the thesis** | |
| Summarise the main argument | |
| **2. Make the arguments** | |
| Provide a summary of the strongest arguments that support the thesis (that is, in favour of the theory, proposition, position, proposal, recommendation, etc.) | |
|  | **1.** |
| **2.** |
| **3.** |
| **3. Anticipate challenges** | **4. Defend against the challenges** |
| Raise potential arguments that could be used to challenge the thesis, including counter-arguments already raised by others (such as in research literature), weak spots that you can spot for yourself | Provide arguments that address the points raised in 3, in defence of the thesis |
| **1.** | **1.** |
| **2.** | **2.** |
| **3.** | **3.** |
| **4.** | **4.** |
| **5.** | **5.** |
| **6.** | **6.** |
| **5. Identify merits in the counter arguments** | **6. Manage the counter-merits**  **•** |
| Identify any merits to the challenges raised in 3 if not already covered. Depending on your argument, you might find it easier to separate these out, or incorporate them into stages 3 and 4. | * Either: clarify why, despite these merits, the counter-arguments do not necessitate changes to the initial argument * Or: clarify why the aspects of the counter-argument should be taken on board to modify and improve the argument |
| **1.** | **1.** |
| **2.** | **2.** |
| **7. Synthesis/conclusion (Summary of your final position)** | |
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