

Argument-Centered Education -- Critique Builder

MODEL: SOCCER IS BEST

Argumentative Position (the position that you are critiquing)	Argumentative Counter-Position (the position that your counter-claim supports)
Soccer is the best sport in the world.	Soccer is not the best sport in the world.
Argumentative Claim (the claim that you are critiquing)	Argumentative Counter-Claim (the claim that your critique supports)
Soccer is simply the most well-loved sport in the world.	It isn't clear that soccer is the most beloved sport in the world, and even if it is that may not matter.
Evidence (evidence that supports the argument you are critiquing)	Critique of Evidence
For the World Cup soccer championship in 2014, there were 909.6 million viewers for at least 30 minutes of the games. That same year, There were 111.5 million viewers around the world for the Super Bowl (Charles Doty, Beutler Ink website, an international marketing firm, accessed June 18, 2018).	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) The World Cup is played only once every four years. Therefore it is a bigger event when it is played, making it likelier to have higher ratings than the Super Bowl, which is played every year.(2) The World Cup involves countries from around the world and is broadcast internationally. The Super Bowl involves only teams from the U.S. and has a very limited international broadcast. This disparity in broadcast reach accounts for the two events' different ratings.
Reasoning (reasoning that supports the argument you are critiquing)	Critique of Reasoning
This comparison in the viewing audience of soccer and football is recent and authoritative, since it compares "apples to apples," the pinnacle soccer championship and the pinnacle American sport's championship, football. Because soccer is truly enjoyed internationally its dominance over even the strongest regional rival is overwhelming: more than eight times as many people watch and love soccer as football. There is no better way to rank sports than to count the number of their fans. Sports are entertainment to their audiences; the size of the sport's audience is the key metric. And soccer's audiences not only grant it the title of best sport in the world, but they suggest that no other sport is even in the running.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) This isn't an apples to apples to comparison, for the two reasons identified above. This is an uneven comparison, so it doesn't support the claim.(2) Also, countries that are rabid about soccer generally have far fewer sports options, especially for the average kid to play, in part because some of them are developing countries and do not have the resources to support more expensive sports. They are popular by default.(3) In the U.S., which seems to lead the world in sports fanaticism, soccer is not as widely loved as several other major sports. The U.S. judgment should be taken seriously.(4) Sports are more than entertainment -- athletic prowess and competition is not only a diversion -- so they shouldn't be judged by popularity alone.