

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## “Hoot” Letter to the Editor Assignment

**Directions:** Choose a main character from the movie and write a letter to the editor from that character. You will write to a newspaper that makes sense for the character that you have chosen (e.g. from the right time period and in the right geographical location). Your job will be to determine an issue that is important to the character you have chosen or a situation that the character wants to change. Your letter will explain that issue or situation to readers of the newspaper.

### Steps to Follow:

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Letter to the editor worksheet             | _____ /10 pts.  |
| 2. Persuasion Map                             | _____ /15 pts.  |
| 3. Letter to the editor rough draft           | _____ /15 pts.  |
| 3. Letter to the editor peer review questions | _____ /10 pts.  |
| 4. Letter to the editor (Best Copy)           | _____ /50 pts.  |
| <b>Total Points</b>                           | _____ /100 pts. |

Student names: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher name: \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSUASIVE WRITING ASSESSMENT

	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement
<b>Introduction (Organization)</b>	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic, and previews the structure of the paper.	The introduction clearly states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper, but is not particularly inviting to the reader.	The introduction states the main topic, but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper, nor is it particularly inviting to the reader.	There is no clear introduction of the main topic or structure of the paper.
<b>Sequencing (Organization)</b>	Details are placed in a logical order and the way they are presented effectively keeps the interest of the reader.	Details are placed in a logical order, but the way in which they are presented sometimes makes the writing less interesting.	Some details are not in a logical or expected order, and this distracts the reader.	Many details are not in a logical or expected order. There is little sense that the writing is organized.
<b>Conclusion (Organization)</b>	The conclusion is strong and leaves readers with a feeling that they understand what the writer is arguing for.	The conclusion is recognizable and ties up almost all the loose ends.	The conclusion is recognizable, but does not tie up several loose ends.	There is no clear conclusion. The paper just ends.
<b>Accuracy of Facts (Content)</b>	All supporting facts are reported accurately.	Almost all supporting facts are reported accurately.	Most supporting facts are reported accurately.	No facts are reported or most are inaccurately reported.
<b>Commitment (Voice)</b>	The writer successfully uses several persuasive strategies to try to show why the reader should care or want to know more about the topic.	The writer successfully uses one or two persuasive strategies to try to show why the reader should care or want to know more about the topic.	The writer attempts to make the reader care about the topic, but is not really successful.	The writer makes no attempt to make the reader care about the topic.

# Letter to the Editor Worksheet

1. What is the title of the book you are writing about?
2. What character have you chosen? Give a short description of the character and tell why the character is important to the novel.
3. What issue is most important to this character? What topic would the character be most likely to write a letter to the editor about?
4. What are the character's feelings on this issue?
5. What would the character want someone else to do about this issue? What would the character want others to think or do?
6. Fill in the table below to outline the main reasons that the character would use to convince others to think or do something about the issue. Use the back if you need more space.

Main Reasons	How Reasons Will Persuade Others

# Persuasion Map Planning Sheet

## Goal or Thesis

A goal or thesis is a statement that describes one side of an arguable viewpoint.

- What is the thesis or point you are trying to argue?

## Main Reasons

You will need some good reasons to support your goal or thesis.

Briefly state three main reasons that would convince someone that your thesis is valid.

- Reason 1
- Reason 2
- Reason 3

## Facts or Examples

What are some facts or examples you could state to support this reason and validate this argument?

- Fact or Example 1
- Fact or Example 2
- Fact or Example 3

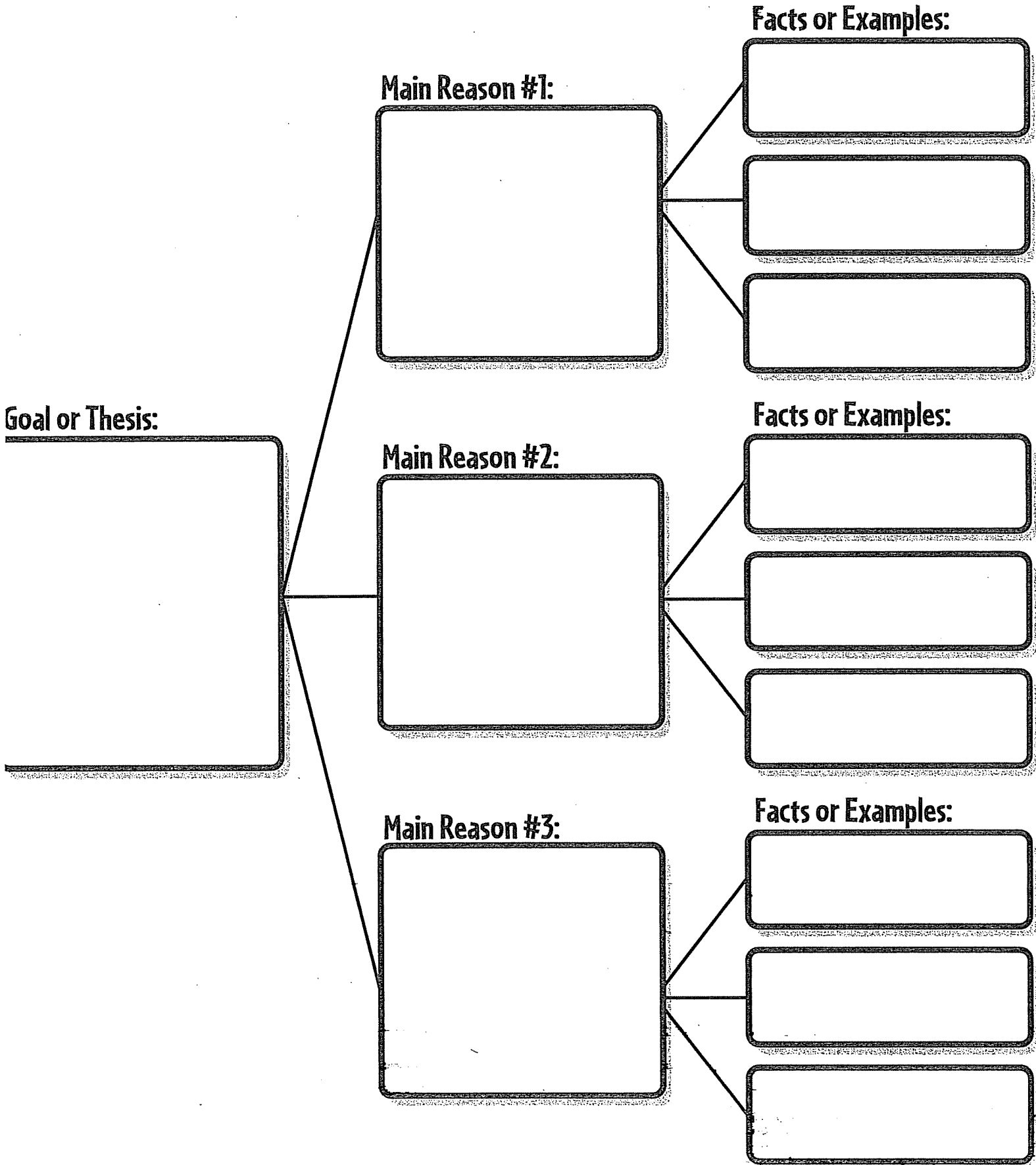
## Conclusion

A piece of persuasive writing usually ends by summarizing the most important details of the argument and stating once again what the reader is to believe or do.

# Persuasion Map

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_



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# Letter to the Editor Peer Review Questions

1. Does the letter begin with a salutation and end with a signature block?
2. What issue is the character discussing? Is the issue named in the first sentence or paragraph?
3. In the first paragraph, what main reason does the letter writer give for writing? What position is the character taking on the issue?
4. What specific points does the character use to support the position taken in the letter?
5. How does the letter conclude? Is the conclusion appropriate for the letter?
6. What advice would you give the author of this letter?
7. What did you like the most about this letter? Why?