Teaching Argument Writing – Grades 6-12 by George Hillocks, Jr.

Preface: Toulmin’s Basic Conception of Argument – pg. xix - xxvi
Introduction: Csikszentmihalyi’s Characteristics of Flow Experience (pg. 5)

Part 1: Teaching the Basics of Argument Writing
(try out the strategy by using the pictures found in the first 2 chapters in your presentation)
Chapter 1: Whodumit? Solving Mysteries to Teach Simple Arguments of Fact
(Ways to use mysteries in the curriculum)
Chapter 2: What Makes a Good Mascot – or a Good Leader? (Teaching simple arguments of judgment)
Chapter 3: Solving Problems Kids Care About: Writing Simple Arguments of Policy

Part II: Teaching Students to Write More Complex Arguments
Chapter 4: How are judgments made in the real world?
Chapter 5: Answering Difficult Questions: Learning to Make Judgments Based on Criteria
  • Giraffe Awards
  • Judgments of Murder (use Appendix A – pg. 201)
Chapter 6: What is Courage: Developing and Supporting Criteria for Arguments of Judgment?
Chapter 7: Argument and Interpretation: Teaching Students How to Make Literary Judgments

Appendix A: Definitions of Murder in the United States

Study Guide for Teaching Argument Writing – pg. 215