**Some Key Terms for Opinion/Argument Writing**

***Adapted from http://quizlet.com/16859293/argument-essay-key-terms-flash-cards/***

**argument**

Statements in which reason is used to influence or change people's ideas or actions

**arguments of policy**

Arguments in which the writer is recommending a particular way of operating or acting, whether formal (a new law, rule, regulation) or informal (way of acting or being)

**arguments of value**

Arguments in which the writer is using set criteria or introducing criteria and applying them to make a judgment about a person, place or thing

**argumentative writing**

A kind of writing that argues pros of your point and points out the cons of the opposition

**authorizing**

Using the credentials of a source in order to enhance one’s argument (Dr. X, a research scientist at the Mayo Clinic)

**claim**

A statement that something is true (i.e., Stereotyping is detrimental to personal growth) or advantageous (i.e, we should increase recycling)

**commentary**

Commenting on the evidence to explain the connection and relevance to the claim; also called the analysis or elaboration

**countering**

Ideas and information that are presented to oppose another argument

**evidence**

Facts that are used to support a claim; supporting materials used to prove or disprove something

**fact**

Information whose truth can be proven or which is accepted as true

**opinion**

A statement that expresses a person's judgement or belief

**statistics**

Information presented in numerical (number) form