

Sample Argumentative Brainstorming Page

Prompt: Write an argumentative essay in which you take a clear position on this question: Do book bans help or harm young people? Support your position with information from at least two of the articles you have read.

Reasons For Book Bans	Reasons Against Book Bans
Protects students from seeing mature content that they might not be ready for	Prevents young people from seeing different perspectives and experiences, limiting their ability to develop empathy
Helps match students' education to the community's values and beliefs	Prevents some young people from seeing their own lives represented in books, which can make them feel invisible or left out
Can limit young people's exposure to false or dangerous information, such as hate speech or conspiracy theories	Silences the voices of marginalized groups, like Black or LGBTQ+ kids
Allows parents to have influence over their children's education	Makes it harder for young people to think critically or understand challenging ideas, which can limit their ability to form their own opinions
Limits exposure to unnecessary violence, which can influence young people's behavior	Removes books that teach important historical lessons or lessons about real-life issues
Helps create comfortable learning environments by avoiding uncomfortable feelings about sensitive topics	Restricts people from freely expressing ideas, which can make young people hesitant to share their own opinions and perspectives