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# Telling Both Sides

# A Conversation

- Rule: Make your academic writing like a conversation.



# Two Sides To Every Story



# Objections

- Rule: Let the other side speak.



# How To

- The best way to “let the other side speak” is by summarizing what the author argues.
- Summaries should outline ARGUMENTS.

# Summary Example

- Even though Ritalin may cause a number of problems, Dr. Jeremy Bills **argues** that doing so “brings many benefits.” One such benefit is that “thousands of parents” have been able to cope better “because their children are taking Ritalin.” Dr. Bills defends prescribing Ritalin because of its stabilizing effects on many children who would be “out of control without it.” **Clearly** Dr. Bills believes that the benefits of Ritalin outweigh the costs and the risks.

# Helpful Transition Words

- On the other hand...
- Others argue that...
- However...
- Nonetheless...
- Conversely...
- Then again...
- In spite of this...
- Even though...

# Telling Both Sides

- Being prepared, however, may not be enough. One expert on the subject, Dr. Randolph Hershey, argues that nearly all cases of date rape involve drugs and are therefore unpreventable. “Drugs such as GHB, Rohypnol, and Ketamine,” says Dr. Hershey, “render the victim helpless. Consequently, victims can take no measures to prevent the crime.” Dr. Hershey seems to be saying that date rape is unstoppable because the drugs used in the assault are so potent.

# Responding

- Even though date rape drugs may be powerful, Dr. Hershey has missed an important point: simply knowing about date rape drugs could help prevent the crime. For example, if young women knew how date rape drugs were administered (through drinks), they might avoid drinks while at raves, dances, and parties. Or they might ask friends to call for help any time they looked to be out of control. While Dr. Hershey makes a good point about the role of drugs in date rape, any information could help prevent it.