

课时学习目标:

能识别议论文写作中论点和反方论点；
能在议论文写作中清晰地呈现论点和反方论点；
能依据议论文的语篇结构组织写作内容。

Activity 1: Introducing the writing task

Q: What would you do if you were Chen Kai?

I would talk with the headmaster./ I would write a letter to the headmaster.

Activity 2: Making a survey

Task: Finish the survey on whether there should be an additional foreign language course for high school students.

My claim	Supporting details
Taking an additional foreign language course is not suggested for high school students.	From students' perspective: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. English is more international and French is less practical.2. It's unnecessary to learn a foreign language, because we have translation software that makes it easier for us to talk to foreigners.3. We have no more time to learn a new foreign language from the beginning because as we age, our language center has become older so that we have missed the precious opportunity to learn the language. From the headmaster's perspective: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The cost is too high to start a new course.2. There won't be many students interested in it.

My claim	Supporting details
There should be an additional foreign language course for high school students.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We can better understand French culture. 2. We have apps to help us learn French. 3. Learning a new language can improve our memory. 4. Learning a new language can improve our concentration. 5. Learning a new language can build our willpower.

Activity 3: Reading a short essay

Task : Read the short essay and fill in the table on your worksheet.

/	Claim	Writer's counterclaim
/	One may think that English is the only foreign language worth learning to feel confident in society.	I would recommend to my friends that they learn as many foreign languages as possible.
Supporting details	English is used in almost all fields of international communication: business, politics, science, culture, etc.	Every language is worth learning because it is a key that unlocks a world for us. Learning other foreign languages greatly increases the number of people on the globe with whom you can communicate.

Activity 4: Making an outline

Task 1: Go over your group members' opinions and sort out the strongest claim and counterclaim

/	claim	counterclaim
/	Taking a French course is not suggested for high school students.	I am in favour of offering a French course at school.
Supporting details	Students are fully occupied with learning English and other subjects.	1) French is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. 2) Many world-famous works of literature were originally written in French.

Reference: sentence starters for the claim and counterclaim..

Sentence starters for claims	Sentence starters for counterclaims
1. One may think that ... 2. In sb's opinion, ... 3. sb is in favour of ... 4. It is often thought/supposed ...	1. I would recommend ... 2. I would argue ... 3. It might be true that ...; however, ... 4. Others may say that ..., but when you look at the facts ...

2) Add supporting details to the claim and counterclaim.

IV. Self-evaluation

Directions: make a self-evaluation according to the following questions and make some improvements if necessary.

Are the claim and the counterclaim stated clearly?

Are the details relevant to the claim and the counterclaim?

Are there any overlapped details?

VI. Peer evaluation

Directions: Exchange your draft with your partner. Read his or her draft and check it with the following checklist.

Your Name:	Partner's Name:
1. Are the claim and counterclaim stated clearly in the paragraph? _____yes _____no If yes, circle the claim and counterclaim..	
2. Are all of the supporting details related to the topic sentence? _____yes _____no If yes, underline the sentences.	
3. Is there anything you might change in the draft? Write down your suggestion. _____ _____	

VII. Assignments:

1. Rewrite the paragraph according to the checklist.
2. Finish the persuasive letter to the headmaster in 100-120 words and polish your writing based on the checklist on your worksheet.

Directions:

Before writing, read the following tips to know what should be covered in the essay.

The introduction

1) *Raise the thesis.* ()

The body

2) *Present the claim and counterclaim clearly.* ()

3) *Present specific supporting details relevant to the claim.* ()

The conclusion

4) *Summarize and reinforce the argumentation.*()

After writing, check your essay according to the tips above. If you have covered the points, tick in the (✓).

Dear headmaster:

I am Chen Kai, a school student who has been studying English for eight years. Recently, a French film made me interested in the French language. However, there isn't any French course offered in our school.

It is the fact that English is widely used in our society. As an international communication tool, we always learn to speak English in order to get more chance to talk with foreigners in business or science. For this reason, many people consider it unnecessary to learn other foreign language, but I beg to differ with it.

Although learning English has become a significant trend in the 21th century, we still have to admit that not only English but also other language such as French is useful. Students should learn more than one foreign language if possible, for learning languages broadens our horizons as well as benefits our brain.

France has been a cultural centre for many centuries. Many people agree that French is one of the most beautiful languages in the world. It is also one of the six official languages of the United Nations. If we learn French well, we will feel more comfortable and confident travelling and enjoying those fascinating attractions like the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre and the Paris Opera House, as well as the many sights and wonders of the globe's many other French-speaking countries.

In addition, Victor Hugo and Alexandre Dumas were literary giants whose masterworks *Les Misérables* and *The Count of Monte Cristo* have influenced readers everywhere. Likewise, some well-known films like *The Little Prince* and *The Chorus* are in French. If we learn this language well, we will be able to fully appreciate a vital culture.

All things considered, I sincerely hope that a French course would be offered in our school. Thanks for your reading.

Chen Kai
Yours sincerely