

**RESOURCE SHEET FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS**  
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**Examples of Opinion v. Argument/Claim**

1) Opinion:

I like apples because they are better.

Argument:

Apples are a better choice for college students because, unlike oranges or bananas and similar fruits with peels, they tend to be less messy to eat and are not as juicy as oranges. There is a core that does need to be thrown out, but while eating an apple, there is not an orange peel or excessive juiciness with which the student has to contend.

2) Opinion:

I agree with DuBois that Black/African-American students need separate schools because schools are racist.

Argument/Critical Analysis:

Because predominantly white spaces are unable to adequately affirm and validate Black/African-American students, it is important to take up DuBois's argument about the question of integration. Forced segregation, of course, is inherently problematic and harmful to Black/African-American communities as evidenced by the push within civil rights and similar movements to eradicate legal segregation. If integration, however, is the only remedy to issues of racism and white supremacy, then Black/African-American students will only be "integrated" into spaces where racism still exists and causes harm. It is therefore important to imagine how to both create spaces for Black/African-American students to be validated and affirmed while dismantling systems of white supremacy/racism that make separate spaces a choice for safety, well-being, and student success.