Persuasive writing
A checklist for developing your writing

Carefully reread your work. Have you:

❑ Clearly stated your **contention**?

❑ Selected and explored at least **three** **different**, **relevant** arguments to support your contention?

❑ Used **transition words** to show the relationships between your ideas?

❑ Used at least **five** **different persuasive language techniques**?

❑ Used **capital letters** at the start of each sentence and for **proper nouns**?

❑ Used correct **spelling** and included some more **difficult words**?

❑ Used **commas** to separate **clauses**?

❑ Used **full stops** to end **ideas**?

❑ Used **paragraphs** to organise your **ideas**, including an **introduction** and a **conclusion**?

The following are some tips for improving your work. Once you have addressed each item, tick the box and move on.

Here's what to do if you have:

❑ Used large paragraphs that include too many ideas. Try using the "P.R.E.P" structure: **P**oint, **R**eason, **E**xample, **P**oint. For instance, "I like having a large dog as a pet (**Point**) because it keeps me fit (**Reason**). My dog needs to run for 30 minutes each day, so I run with him (**Example**). A large dog really is the best pet to have (**Point**)". **Only use one P.R.E.P per paragraph!**

❑ Not used many techniques or used the same ones repeatedly. Revisit the **P.E.R.S.U.A.D.E** list of **persuasive techniques** to get some ideas. For instance, rather than using rhetorical questions over and over and over again, try mixing it up by including a technique you haven't used yet.

❑ Re-used the same adjective, verb or noun. Use your thesaurus or the **Word Wall** to make sure your vocabulary is **varied**.

❑ Used a general **adjective** or **verb** (e.g., "nice", "good" or "walked"). Use your thesaurus or the **Word Wall** to locate a more **precise** word.

❑ Included any sentence fragments (e.g., "To keep fit."). **Add verb/s** to make it a complete sentence (e.g., "Dogs help their owners to keep fit.")

❑ Used commas to separate two ideas (e.g., "Dogs are the best animals, there are many kinds of dogs.") Are the ideas linked together? Add a **conjunction** (such as and, but, yet, or). Are the ideas distinct? Add a **full stop**.

❑ Included any run-on sentences (such as sentences with too many conjunctions). Place a **full stop, question mark or exclamation mark** at the end of your first thought.