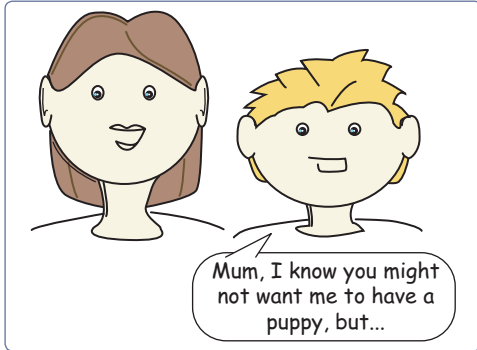


Approach: Independent
 Focus: Identifying valid points and constructing an argument
 Resources: Recording book

Questions / instructions:



Imagine – your friend’s dog is about to have puppies. They said you can have one for nothing. But

You live in a house with a small section.	con	37	68
Your house is in a busy street with lots of traffic.	con	36	67
Dogs are good burglar alarms.	pro	56	78
Your mum takes great care of her flower garden.	con	39	65
There are some holes in your fence.	con	43	63
Dogs are good friends.	pro	59	78
Your mum hasn't got a lot of spare money.	con	33	59
You have a paper run.	pro	10	27
You play lots of sports after school.	con	27	51
Dogs can be easy to train.	pro	48	65

1. Use the PROs and CONs chart to work out all of the reasons FOR and AGAINST getting a puppy.

PROs (Reasons FOR getting a puppy)	CONs (Reasons AGAINST getting a puppy)

2. What will you say to get Mum to agree to have a puppy?

Argument for a dog: good coherent argument	10	31
reasonable argument	32	37
vague or no argument	58	32

Used pros and cons in argument :
(reasons need not be from Question 1)

3+ used well	2	12
3+ given but not integrated well	3	6
2 given	4	11
1 given	16	18
none used	75	53

Total score: 12–16	5	28
9–11	18	29
6–8	18	15
3–5	21	9
0–2	38	19

Commentary:

On average, year 8 students were much more adept than year 4 students at identifying relevant arguments for and against getting a puppy and constructing a case to present to their mother.