



Worksheet 3: Two-sided arguments

For each of the following questions, decide what the two sides of the argument are, then give an example of a point you could make to support each side of the argument. The first one is completed for you.

- 1 Evaluate the positivist approach to sociological research.

One side of the argument	Other side of the argument
<i>That positivism is the best approach to research.</i>	<i>Interpretivists have identified some criticisms of the positivist approach.</i>
Example: <i>Positivists use a quantitative approach as it allows researchers to identify patterns and trends which can be used to make comparisons.</i>	Example: <i>A quantitative approach fails to give reasons behind the numbers – an interpretivist approach can gain qualitative data to give us the ‘whys’ behind patterns and trends.</i>
Example:	Example:

- 2 Evaluate the view that questionnaires are the most effective research method.

One side of the argument	Other side of the argument
Example:	Example:

- 3 Evaluate the view that validity is the most important aspect when planning sociological research.

One side of the argument	Other side of the argument
Example:	Example: