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Gaining adequate knowledge about a subject before writing on it is one of the primary prerequisites to write a good paper. We often need to choose a side in an argument and to prove our point we need to back it up with facts. Finding facts to back up our argument is the main purpose of research. Research refers to the concept of gathering information on a topic and it allows us to refer to the work of people before us. We can conduct research through books, reports, journals, periodicals, academic papers, conference notes and articles. We can obtain these sources either as a print or non-print resource. Internet has become the most common way to research on a topic and we have become reliant on it to get information. The amount of information available on the internet is overwhelming and not all the information that the internet presents us with is reliable. We need to cite references in our academic papers or any other type of research in order to tell us readers how we reached a conclusion in an argument. To be able to give credibility to our argument we need to convince our readers that we have used credible sources to gather information. The most credible information on the internet would come from resources such as government websites, academic institutions, and professional organizations such as American Marketing Association or American Psychological Association. Wikipedia is becoming a very popular source or getting information quickly but it is not relied upon as a credible source in research.
In conclusion I would like to say that research is the top requirement to be able to write a great argument because it can help us prove our point by providing credible facts. It is extremely important to use credible information in an argument because an argument backed up with data that does not come from credible resources cannot be trusted to give credible information.