

# [In to support her claims as well as](https://assignbuster.com/in-to-support-her-claims-as-well-as/)

In these two articlesby Ginny Graves and Ruth Whippman, both authors attempt to persuade theintended target audience, people searching for happiness, of the various waysone can attain happiness from interaction with others as well as from oneself. Althoughboth articles speak of the same issue, they vary in writing styles and theamount of research evidence provided to support their claims.

While Whippmanutilizes a more personal style of persuasion filled with her own experiences tosupport her claims as well as having a two sided argument, I believe thatGraves has presented a more persuasive case attributed from the extensive useof quotations and opinions from prominent experts and researchers in theirvarious fields and intricate elaborations to support her claims. Initially, one mightbe drawn into Whippman’s article due to a very personal style of writing. Shespeaks about her personal experiences in a new country, the methods she herselfutilizes to seek happiness and constantly uses the personal pronoun ‘ I’ often toemphasize the truism of her experiences. Comparatively, Graves has very scarceuse of anecdotes and personal pronouns. Furthermore, although the tittle ofWhippman’s article is ‘ Happiness Is Other People’ and strongly suggest that shetakes the stand that one finds happiness from others, she gives a ratherholistic argument by also writing about finding happiness from oneself. This isseen when she mentions the individualistic culture powered byself-actualization and the isolationist philosophy (Whippman, 2017).

The use ofanecdotes, personal pronouns and holistic arguments is persuasive and will beable to convinces audiences of her claims. (The persuader’s toolkit). Lastly, Whippman writes about phenomenons in America such as people spending less timeto connect with one another as well as spiritual and religious practices slowlyshifting from community-based endeavors to private ones (Whippman, 2017) andhow they suggest that people are unable to find happiness. Therefore, Whippman’smore targeted and personal style of writing, coupled with the holisticarguments presented and citing of occurring phenomenons can hold more appeal totarget audiences, making her article more persuasive than Graves. However, after furtheranalysis, I find Graves’ article more persuasive as she has better use ofevidence as well as quotations and opinions from qualified experts to supporther arguments.

Providing factual evidence and giving opinions from expertsguarantees the credibility of an argument, making it more persuasive toaudiences (The persuader’s toolkit). Some examples of factual evidence providedis the 2016 study at Michigan State University and how it helps people tametheir negative emotions after being showed troubling photos. (Graves, 2017) Thereis a vast amount of quotations and opinions from experts throughout the entirearticle with two from every paragraph except from paragraphs five and six whichstill contain one each.

Comparatively, Whippman’s article only has one factualevidence from the Bureau of Labor Statistis’ Time Use Survey (Whippman, 2017). Her article has no quotations or opinions from experts and fails to quote anyevidence to prove her argument, making her less credible and persuasive. Moving on, Graves usesevidence, quotes and opinions that are very applicable and relevant to herarguments.

They directly address the issue which the audience are facing, finding happiness. One example would be Graves mentioning that taming negativeemotions can lead to making one happier (Graves, 2017). She substantiated herclaim with evidence from the 2016 study at Michigan State University as well asthe quote and opinion of Martha Beck, a life coach, sociologist and author of’Finding your own North Star”. Whippman on the other hand, already has verylittle factual evidence and the few factual evidences that she provides isinapplicable and irrelevant evidence to support her claims. An example would beher mentioning how the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Times shows Americans spend lessthan four minutes a day ‘ hosting and attending social events’ (Whippman, 2017). The issue is for readers to find happiness but mentioning Americans spendinglittle time on social occasions does not show why or explain how people areunable to find happiness or teaching readers how to find happiness. Therefore, Graves is more persuasive through the better use of evidence to support hisarguments. Furthermore, Graves asksthe readers many Rhetorical questions such as ‘ What relationships do I want tobuild?’ and ‘ What do I want my life to be about’ (Graves, 2017).

Rhetoricalquestions will allow the reader to think about their own response to thequestion and makes them interested, thereby making Graves more persuasive (Thepersuader’s toolkit). Whippman on the other hand has absolutely no use ofrhetorical questions. Even though Whippmanhas made use of a personal writing style, personal pronouns and presenting aslightly holistic argument to make her article be seemingly more persuasive, Graves’ better use of factual evidence, quotations from experts, applicable evidenceto support her claims as well as rhetorical questions has led to the undisputedconclusion that she is more convincing.

Graves’ article presents a morepersuasive case through the use of both arguments and evidence.