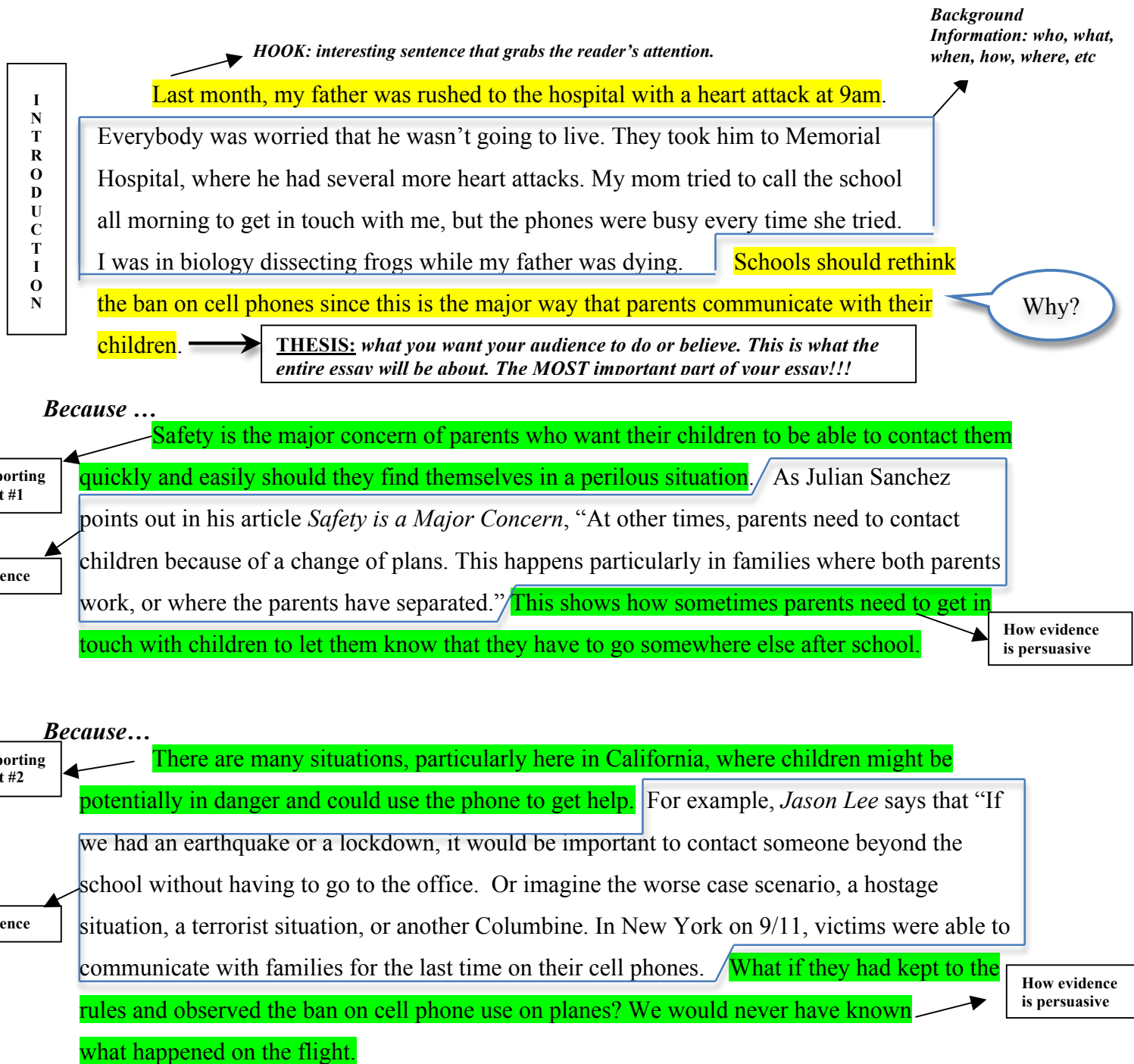


# SAMPLE ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY



*Because...*

Supporting Point #3

Everyone carries a cell phone these days with him or her. Kids will still bring their phones regardless of the ban.

*Joel Murano, a California high school principal estimates*

Evidence

that, "70 percent of the kids in his school had phones."

*I believe cell phones are necessary*

For students and think administrators should allow them under certain rules. For example, they should be off during class time and only be used at lunch and after school. Students' phones should be confiscated if they are used during class.

How evidence is persuasive

Counter-argument: Statement against your thesis to show understand reasons to oppose it

*I know that there are good*

*reasons for the cell phone ban, such as students using them to cheat on tests. Another reason is that they can be used to organize illegal activities such as fights, or truancy.*

But, cheating, fighting and truancy have been going on for much longer than students have had cell phones. Kids will always find a way to communicate about these things.

*Rebuttal: this is how you make your point again and make the thesis stronger*

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My father is back at home now but he won't be back at work for several more months. Since parents are so concerned about our safety, California is an active earthquake state, and almost everyone has a cell phone these days, I can't imagine how I would feel if he had died and I wasn't at the hospital with my family. Having a cell phone means that I can be contacted in an emergency such as this. I understand, as do my friends, that this is a privilege that can be taken away and we won't abuse it. But the school system must trust us—otherwise how can we keep ourselves safe?

*Restate your thesis and supporting points in other words*

**SO WHAT?** → *Why is your essay important to readers? Why should do/believe what your thesis says?*