Persuasive Essay Topics:

Animals/birds

- Factory farming of animals (e.g., of cows, sheep, pigs or chickens) is inhumane.
- Humane meat production is an oxymoron.
- Should rats, mice and birds be used in scientific experimentation?
- Pit-bull dogs are dangerous.
- Puppy mills should be illegal.
- The domestic cat is a serious threat to endangered birds.
- Pet therapy should receive more funding.
- Birds should not be kept in cages.
- Wild animals should be left in the wild.

Arts/Culture

- Artists should be supported and funded by the state.
- Cultural appropriation in any form is an insult.
- No subject should be considered taboo in art.
- Graffiti is art.
- Art should be freely accessible to all.
- Art appreciation and practice should be compulsory subjects.
- Respecting cultural difference should be taught in all schools.
- Everyone should know about the culture(s) they are born into.
- Culture is essential, just like fresh air and food.

Automotive

- Hands-on defensive driving training should be compulsory.
- Electric vehicles should be subsidized.
- Internal combustion engine powered vehicles should be taxed to cover emissions.
• Bicycles and cars should have separate roads.
• Children under the age of 10 should not ride bicycles on public roads.
• Everybody who holds a driving license should be regularly retested.
• Driving while using a cell phone should be illegal.
• Private vehicle ownership and use in cities should be restricted.
• Public transport in cities should be readily available and affordable.

**Business/Economy**

• Money is not the root of all evil.
• Power does not necessarily corrupt.
• All workers should at least receive the minimum wage.
• The minimum wage should be increased.
• Local businesses deserve more support.
• Using cheaper foreign labor for manufacturing is ruining our economy.

**Social/Community**

• Homelessness is the result of choice.
• Becoming a parent should be an earned privilege.
• Same-sex marriage should be accepted in the same way that heterosexual marriage is.
• Juvenile crime is a cry for help not punishment.
• Helping those who need it in the community should be everyone’s responsibility.
• Food should never be wasted.

**Education**

• All education should be free.
• Higher education is over-rated.
• Boys and girls should be educated separately.
• Students should wear uniforms.
• Private (fee-paying) schools achieve better results.
• Everybody who wants to go to school should be able to.
• Ranking student ability using examinations should be stopped.
• Assessment of a student's progress should be measured against themselves not their peers.
- Class sizes should be smaller.
- On-line teaching is as effective as classroom based teaching.

**Environment**

- Being 'green' is a fashionable fad.
- Many current farming practices damage the environment and should be banned.
- All plastic packaging must be banned.
- Should fracking be illegal?
- Renewable energy schemes should be supported.
- Mining in environmentally vulnerable areas should be stopped.
- 'Green' spaces are good for mental health. There should be more parks.

**Ethics**

- Lying is always wrong.
- Truth is never debatable.
- There is never an excuse or reason good enough to declare war.
- Free speech should not be confused with hate speech.
- What is 'right' and 'wrong' changes from generation to generation, from culture to culture.
- Is it right to allow white supremacists to hold rallies?
- Ethical considerations should underpin stem-cell research.

**Health**

- Disabilities of any sort (mental, emotional, or physical) are an opportunity for personal growth.
- Healthcare is the responsibility of the individual, not the state.
- What we eat, we become.
- What we think, we are.
- Plastic surgery should be only for those who really need it.
- Assisted dying (suicide) should be legal.
- Vaccinations in schools for common infectious diseases should be compulsory.
- A tax on sugar would help lessen the spread of diet related health problems.
- Smoking tobacco and tobacco products should be made illegal.
- Therapies, like art or music, should be government funded.

**Global/World**

- Global warming is real.
- The idea of peace on earth is naive.
- Nationalism creates and sustains enemies.
- Cultural difference should be celebrated.
- First world countries should meaningfully and freely assist countries who need help.

**Government/Law/Politics**

- Power does not necessarily corrupt.
- Religion has no place in government.
- Is state censorship or surveillance ever a right course of action?
- Voting should be compulsory.
- Military service should be compulsory.
- It should be illegal to own or have a semi-automatic or assault weapon.

**Media**

- Modern media is to blame for lowering moral standards/reading levels/escalating violence. (Select one!)
- Online games can be good for you.
- Internet chat rooms should be monitored.
- FaceBook (or any other form of social media) is replacing the need for face to face communication.
- Cyberbullying controls should be more actively put in place.
- Monitoring media of any sort should be banned.

**Religion**

- Religious tolerance should be encouraged.
- All religious institutions should be monitored by the state.
- Should students be allowed to follow their religious practices in public schools?
Science/Technology

- Food engineering is the way of the future.
- Cell phone use in public places should be controlled.
- Designer children - is this good for future generations?
- Cloning is justifiable.
- Self-driving cars should be legal.
- The use of robots should be limited.

Sports

- All athletes should be required to take regular drug tests.
- Professional male and female athletes in the same sport should be paid equally.
- Children should not be allowed to play collision sports.
- No-one should be barred from a sport because of their gender.