

## Strengths and weaknesses of a claim

### Strengths:

- use of examples
- tone of language
- clear argument
- easy to follow
- Use of sources
- Research

### Weaknesses:

- Few facts
- Source not referenced
- Potential news paper bias
- author unknown - difficult to ~~very~~ verify knowledge claims
- little evidence
- Mainly assertion

## Testing a claim

### Types of info:

- Statistics
- data from government ~~or press~~
- Research reports
- expert testimony
- individual testimony

### Sources of info:

- governments
- International organisations
- Experts



Research reports  
pressure groups, charities and NGOs  
media and internet

Possible methods:

Interview  
Internet search  
questionnaires  
surveys  
experiment

Looking for bias in statements

Not viewing both sides of claim

Emotive language

Lack of evidence

Focused only on personal experience

For questions asking which argument is more convincing

logic

balance

expertise on the subject

tone, clarity

Evidence ~~was~~ should be appropriate

Source of bias or vested interest - if it is there

Likelihood to agree with other views



## Choosing a recommendation question

Scale of impact

different consequences

time taken to implement

barriers to change

influence of others on this decision

difficulties in planning and coordinating

Cost and access to resources