

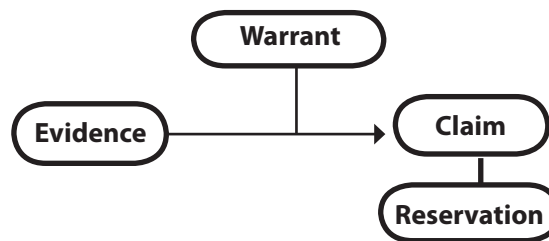
arguments and how they function together. The diagrams shown on the following pages illustrate the Toulmin Model.

The Toulmin Model identifies four basic elements of argument: claim, evidence,² warrant, and reservation. We can explain it by this travel analogy: Evidence is the argument's starting point. The claim is the arguer's destination. The warrant is the means of travel, and the reservation involves questions or concerns the arguer may have about the arrival at the destination. Toulmin's model can be used to diagram and then understand the structure of relatively simple arguments.

STRUCTURE OF AN ARGUMENT

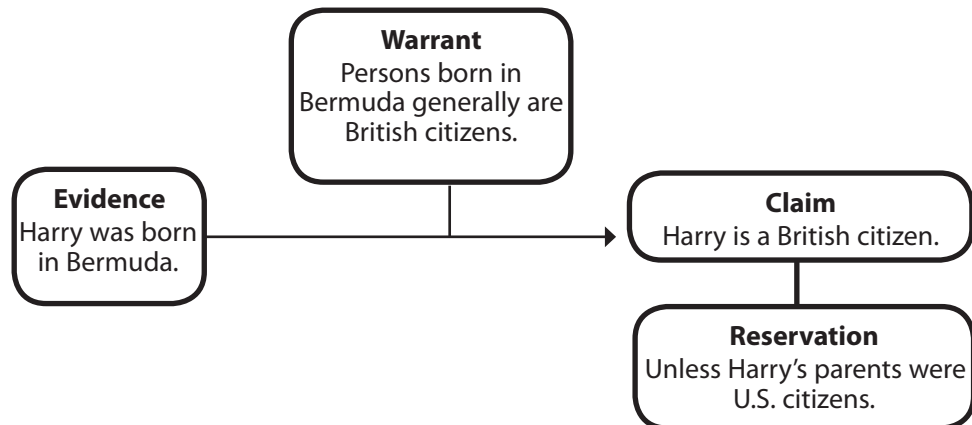
SIMPLE ARGUMENT

A simple argument consists of a single claim leading from a single piece of evidence following along a single warrant and accompanied by perhaps (but not always) a single reservation. The following shows Toulmin's diagram of a simple argument:



Toulmin illustrates this diagram using a simple argument claim that Harry is a British citizen because he was born in Bermuda. Here is how Toulmin diagrammed the structure of that argument:

Simple Argument



Although this diagram clearly illustrates how an argument moves from evidence to a claim via a warrant, very few arguments are ever this simple. For this