# Persuasive Text - structure

**Saving the orangutan**

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| Orangutans are the world's largest tree-climbing mammals. But the number of orangutans living in the forests in Indonesia and Malaysia is rapidly decreasing for a number of reasons. This is putting the future of these great apes in peril. We strongly believe that it is time that communities across the world took a stand to try to save the orangutans from extinction. | *The opening paragraph introduces the topic with some background information and indicates the author’s stance.* |
| Loss of habitat is the greatest threat to orangutans. Farmers clear huge areas of forest to grow crops, particularly palm oil - a product that is commonly found in many supermarket goods around the world such as shampoo, deodorant and chocolate biscuits. Land is also cleared to build roads, to collect timber and for mining. Today, experts state that more than 50% of orangutans live outside of protected forest areas on land owned by timber, palm oil and mining companies. Orangutans are now an endangered species that need protection.  Furthermore, hunters illegally capture young orangutans up to the age of seven for the illegal pet trade. When young orangutans are caught, the mother is also usually killed so this cruel activity is a real threat to orangutans living in the wild.  In addition, orangutans are hunted in some areas for food. They are also sometimeskilled when they move into farming areas and destroy crops.  Lastly, fire is also a major threat to orangutans. In 1997, an uncontrollable forest fire burned in an area of Indonesia. It lasted for 6 months and killed up to 8,000 orangutans. | *Each of the next 4 paragraphs presents an argument with supporting facts to support the author’s opinion, with arguments ordered from most to least important.* |
| We strongly believe that animal welfare organisations, farmers, mining companies and food manufacturers must work closely with the law makers to develop safe and sustainable ways to make money for the farmers and other businesses. At the same time, they need to respect the habitat, welfare and preservation of the orangutans. | *The conclusion restates the author’s opinion and gives some recommendations for action.* |

## TEEL example

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