**11AP**

**Toulmin: From Reading to Writing**

The Toulmin model can help you not only analyze the arguments that you read but also to bring logic and order to what you write. Don’t use the language directly in your essays, as it may end up sounding too stiff and unnatural. If you eliminate some of the artificial constructions and awkward phrasings – because, therefore, since – it can help you create a strong thesis statement, or at least think through the logic of your argument fully so that you can compose one that is strong and persuasive.

Let’s walk through the process of refining an argument topic using the Toulmin model. We’ll begin by responding to an argument about the increased visual nature of our print media, including textbooks:

*One reason education in this country is so bad is that the textbooks are crammed full of fluff like charts and graphs and pictures.*

Let’s restate this argument using the Toulmin model and look at its component parts.

*Because the textbook authors are filling their books with graphs, charts, and picture therefore the quality of education is declining in this country, since less written information equals less learning.*

Fill out the chart below:

Evidence Claim

 Assumption

 Backing