**Write an essay on the following issue.**

**Claim:** The best test of an argument is its ability to convince someone with an opposing viewpoint.

**Reason:** Only by being forced to defend an idea against the doubts and contrasting views of others does one really discover the value of that idea.

**Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim and the reason on which that claim is based.**

The author of the issue claims that the best way to check an argument is by determining whether it can convince someone with an opposing view or not because only by being obliged to defend an idea against the doubts of others we can discover the value of the argument. However, my point of view is not in line with the claim. But I conditionally agree with the reason of the author of the issue for the following reasons.

First, sometimes even though the argument has successfully convinced people with opposing views, it is not always indicative of an argument’s characteristics of being reasonable. Imagine the case where the people with a contrasting view is not an expert in the field of the argument, so the insights he uses to disagree with our argument are not worth listening to. As a result, the claim does not work under all circumstances, and we need to make sure that the other side of the discussion brings useful values that help developing the argument.

Second, the person with an opposing view can become persuaded by one side of our argument, so his objection does not necessarily reflect a flaw in our argument. Since there are three ways to persuade someone, namely egos, pathos, and logos, one might fail to consider all three factors. For instance, the idea of feeding the impoverished children of South Africa for a year may convince people, since those children are suffering from poverty since their birth and they deserve to get fed like other people do. However, financially such argument is not practical. It requires billions of dollars to conduct such an idea besides the fact that the provided ease is temporarily, and those children will deal with poverty again once the food supplies ends. As a result, you can see how a convinced person might fail to consider factors associated with the practicality of an idea.

Third, the reasoning of the author may sound reasonable, but given that his assertion is unqualified, being forced to defend an idea is not the only way of checking an idea. One of the ways by which ideas can be checked is conducting the idea in small scale and seeing if it is generating the desirable outcomes. In fact, this strategy is employed by top companies like Instagram. Before announcing any new feature on their app, they first test it in small scale within a few hundred accounts. For instance, I remember seeing the video call feature on my Instagram before the official announcement of it. As a result, being forced to defend an idea is not the only way of checking an idea.

To sum up, when it comes to making sure whether any idea is valid and working, it is advised to talk to educated people in the field. Also, be sure to figure out how your idea convinces someone else. Furthermore, one of the additional ways to test an idea is by testing an idea in small scale before talking to anyone about it.