

Persuasive Essay Outline

Directions: Use this outline to help inform your writing of your rough drafts and final draft, as we work on the writing process in and outside of class. For your outline, write in as much information for each point as you know, and then, for support and ideas you do not have yet, write specific questions or basic ideas of what you'd like to write down, to help guide what you still need to find out and research.

Introduction

- A. Get the reader's attention by using a "hook." One suggestion is to connect a story of a real person or made up scenario that relates to your topic. Don't worry about perfection here yet. We can work on this.

- B. Give some background information. Briefly summarize your topic, why it is a "hot topic" (controversial, different sides), and define any terms that might be familiar to an audience not familiar with this topic.

- C. Thesis or focus statement. Copy from your notes activity today.

I. First argument or reason to support your position:

- A. 1st major reason why, and what it exemplifies most (pathos, logos, or ethos):

- B. Evidence #1: Here, explain how there is proof for the 1st major reason why.

- C. Explanation. Explain how this evidence helps proves your opinion on the subject and/or elaborate. (You may have questions initially.)

- D. Evidence #2: Here, explain how there is even more proof for the 1st major reason why.

- E. Explanation. Explain how this evidence helps proves your opinion on the subject and/or elaborate. (You may have questions initially)

- F. Closing Statement (for the outline, just be aware that this exists; no need to write anything here).

II. Second argument or reason to support your position:

- A. 2nd major reason why, and what it exemplifies most (pathos, logos, or ethos):

- B. Evidence #1: Here, explain how there is proof for the 1st major reason why.

C. Explanation. Explain how this evidence helps proves your opinion on the subject and/or elaborate. (You may have questions initially)

D. Evidence #2: Here, explain how there is even more proof for the 1st major reason why.

E. Explanation. Explain how this evidence helps proves your opinion on the subject and/or elaborate. (You may have questions initially)

F. Closing Statement (for the outline, just be aware that this exists; no need to write anything here).

III. Third **and strongest** argument or reason to support your position:

C. 3rd major reason why, and what it exemplifies most (pathos, logos, or ethos):

D. Evidence #1: Here, explain how there is proof for the 1st major reason why.

G. Explanation. Explain how this evidence helps proves your opinion on the subject and/or elaborate. (You may have questions initially)

H. Evidence #2: Here, explain how there is even more proof for the 1st major reason why.

I. Explanation. Explain how this evidence helps proves your opinion on the subject and/or elaborate. (You may have questions initially)

J. Closing Statement (for the outline, just be aware that this exists; no need to write anything here).

IV. Opposing Viewpoint (allows the reader to know you have considered another point of view, and have a rebuttal, or comeback, to it)

A. Opposing point to your argument. What do you think your opposing side's strongest argument for their case is? Mention it.

B. Your rebuttal to the opposing point. A "rebuttal" is a respectful way to show the flaws in the opposing side's argument, and strengthen your own argument with further evidence.

C. Elaboration to back your rebuttal. Continue to add additional detail for further insight.

Conclusion:

- A. Restate thesis statement. Your conclusion should always begin with a creatively reworded phrasing of your thesis idea. Write it here.

- B. Summary of main points or reasons. You will summarize your main ideas, but no need to write them here. Wait until your rough draft.
- C. Personal comment or call to action. Another 2ish sentences explaining what people can do or can continue to do to make sure that your point of view is taken. For your initial outline, do not worry about this.