

Sample Essay Outline/Template

This sample essay outline is meant to work as a guide and explanation of different parts of an essay. Please use this as a reference or brainstorming tool that can be freely changed as you create work that is appropriate to your assignment.

Introduction

Opening Ideas (The information your reader needs to know before reading):

Thesis Statement (One sentence that states what your essay will be about):

Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence (One sentence that states what the paragraph will be about):

Evidence (A quote or point that supports your topic sentence):

Commentary (An explanation of your evidence in your own words):

Evidence:

Commentary:

Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

Evidence:

Commentary:

Evidence:

Commentary:

*An essay may contain any number of body paragraphs, and a paragraph may contain any number of Evidence/Commentary

Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

Evidence:

Commentary:

Evidence:

Commentary:

Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

Evidence:

Commentary:

Evidence:

Commentary:

Conclusion

Rephrase Thesis Statement:

Summarize Previous Points:

Concluding Statement:

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