

Argumentative Essay

5 paragraph outline

I. Introductory Paragraph

- a. **Hook:** capture the reader's attention with something interesting (quote, anecdote, figurative language, interesting fact or statistic).
- b. **Transition:** relate your hook to your thesis. Provide background information for your topic.
- c. **Thesis:** states your claim, addresses the prompt, and offers three convincing reasons for your claim.

II. Body Paragraph #1

- a. **Topic sentence:** reason one in support of your claim.
- b. **Fact / Evidence / Support:** introduce the first piece of evidence to support reason one.
- c. **Explain:** how does the evidence sentence support reason one (*This shows that, ...*)
- d. **Explain:** explain the importance of the above support sentence (*This is important because, ...*)
- e. **Concluding sentence:** summarize the point of the paragraph and transition to the next.

III. Body Paragraph #2

- a. **Topic sentence:** reason two in support of your claim.
- b. **Fact / Evidence / Support:** introduce the first piece of evidence to support reason two.
- c. **Explain:** how does the evidence sentence support reason two (*This shows that, ...*)
- d. **Counterclaim:** introduce the first piece of evidence against your stance
- e. **Explain:** provide evidence to show why some people may think this
- f. **Concluding sentence:** state a reason that supports your claim and proves your claim is correct (*While this may be true, ...*)

IV. Body Paragraph #3

- a. **Topic sentence:** reason three in support of your claim.
- b. **Fact / Evidence / Support:** introduce the first piece of evidence to support reason three.
- c. **Explain:** how does the evidence sentence support reason three (*This shows that, ...*)
- d. **Counterclaim:** introduce the second piece of evidence against your stance
- e. **Explain:** provide evidence to show why some people may think this
- f. **Concluding sentence:** state a reason that supports your claim and proves your claim is correct (*While this may be true, ...*)

V. Concluding Paragraph

- a. **Summary sentence:** summarize the main ideas without being repetitive. This sentence should also begin with a transition.
- b. **Call to action:** remind the reader of the importance of your topic and ideas.
- c. **Recommendation:** give the reader advice on how your topic and ideas will help them or society in the future.

Argumentative Essay Outline

Introductory Paragraph

Hook sentence: You want to capture the reader's attention with something interesting. (e.g., quote, anecdote, figurative language, fact, or statistic).

Transition Sentence(s): Relate your hook to your thesis statement. Provide background for your topic.

Thesis Statement: State your claim, address the prompt, and offer three convincing reasons for your claim.

Body Paragraph #1 - 5 sentences

A transitional phrase and topic sentence: Reason one in support of your claim is the topic. Refer to the transition word list for guidance if needed.

Fact / Evidence / Support: Introduce the first piece of evidence to support reason one.

Explain: *Two sentences that show how the evidence supports reason one.* These sentences **explain your personal thoughts, feelings, and opinions** about the **meaning and importance** of reason one

Concluding sentence: Summarize the point of the paragraph and transition to the next paragraph.

Body Paragraph #2 - 6 sentences

<p>A transitional phrase and topic sentence: Reason two in support of your claim is the topic. Refer to the transition word list for guidance if needed.</p>	
<p>Fact / Evidence / Support: Introduce the first piece of evidence to support your reason two.</p>	
<p>Explain: How does this evidence support reason two? (<i>This shows that, ...</i>)</p>	
<p>Counterclaim: Introduce the first piece of evidence against your claim. (<i>This shows that, ...</i>)</p>	
<p>Explain: Provide evidence to show why some people may think this.</p>	
<p>Concluding sentence: State a reason that supports your claim and proves your claim is correct (<i>While this may be true, ...</i>)</p>	

Body Paragraph #3 - 6 sentences

<p>A transitional phrase and topic sentence: Reason three in support of your claim. Refer to the transition word list for guidance if needed.</p>	
<p>Fact / Evidence / Support: Introduce the first piece of evidence to support reason three.</p>	
<p>Explain: How does the evidence sentence support reason three (<i>This shows that, ...</i>)</p>	

Counterclaim: Introduce the first piece of evidence against your claim. (*This shows that, ...*)

Explain: Provide evidence to show why some people may think this.

Concluding sentence: Summarize the point of the paragraph and transition to the next paragraph.

CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH

Summary Sentence: This sentence should summarize the main ideas without being repetitive. It should also begin with a transition.

Call your reader to action: Remind the reader of the importance of your topic and ideas.

Give your reader a recommendation: Give the reader advice on how your topic and ideas will help them or society in the future.

Quick Check:

- ___ All sentences are capitalized. Highlight beginning capitalization in **blue**.
- ___ All sentences are punctuated. Highlight ending punctuation in **pink**.
- ___ No two sentences in any paragraph start with the same word.
- ___ I have included a word count at the end of each sentence to ensure my sentences vary in length.
- ___ I have a variety of transitional words and phrases in and between my paragraphs. Highlight them in a **green**. (I do not use first, second, third, or one).
- ___ A peer has read my whole essay aloud to me so I can ensure the essay makes sense.