

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