

FORMAL ESSAY OUTLINE

Introductory Paragraph:

- Your first sentence must hook your reader's interest AND introduce your topic
- Thesis Statement = this sentence is your paper's position on your topic. It is an opinion, a position on an idea, it is not a fact.
- Blueprint = this sentence, usually in your paragraph, identifies briefly the main points of argument that will be developed in your essay: A, B, C

Body Paragraph A:

- topic sentence
- supporting evidence – details / example
- supporting evidence – details / example
- supporting evidence – details / example
- transition sentence to next topic

Body Paragraph B:

- topic sentence
- supporting evidence – details / example
- supporting evidence – details / example
- supporting evidence – details / example
- transition sentence to next topic

Body Paragraph C:

- topic sentence
- supporting evidence – details / example
- supporting evidence – details / example
- supporting evidence – details / example
- transition sentence to next topic

Concluding Paragraph:

- re-stated thesis statement = restates the main idea of your essay, your thesis, but not in the same words used in your thesis statement in your first paragraph
- clincher = signals your essay's conclusion by bringing your essay full circle, back to your hook. The clincher connects to your hook and neatly ends your essay

