

Essay Outline Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Topic: (the title or the topic of your essay): _____

I. Introductory Paragraph

A. Opening Statement: How will you first bring the reader into your essay? What will you say to introduce what your essay is about? Think of this as a handshake with the reader.

What else will you say to introduce your ideas?

B. _____

C. _____

Thesis Statement: What is the main idea of your essay? ***THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SENTENCE OF YOUR ENTIRE ESSAY, SO WORD IT CAREFULLY!!!!!!!***

II. Body Paragraph #1

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence which explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

III. Body Paragraph #2

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence that explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

IV. Body Paragraph #3

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence which explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

IV. Body Paragraph #4? (optional)

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence which explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

V. Concluding Paragraph

A. Summative OR “So-What?” Statement: (reconnection to Thesis Statement): So-What version: If everything I’ve said is true, so what? What’s the point of all this? Summative version: How can I sum it all up? Restate thesis in light of what you have proven. **THIS SHOULD BE THE MIRROR IMAGE OF YOUR THESIS STATEMENT. WORD IT CAREFULLY!**

Supporting Sentences:

If this is a Summative paragraph, recap the points of your essay. If this is a So-What paragraphs, add the appropriate sentences that further your statement.

B.

C. _____

D. _____

Closing Sentence: This is the final sentence of your essay, ending your discussion of the topic.

Notes: (use this space to jot down any further notes you have on your essay):