

Writing Outline

The format of your essay should be as follows:

1. Introduction

- Create an interest in the topic for your reader -
- Introduce relevant background on topic
- Present your thesis and a brief rationale that supports your position
THESIS= Position + Rationale

2. Body Paragraph #1 (confirmation)

- Topic Sentence
- A specific position that supports your thesis
- Minimum of 2 quotes/evidence/theory that support this position
- *Lead-in sentences for quotes as well as analysis that supports thesis (use correct citation)

3. Body Paragraph #2 (confirmation - same structure as body paragraph 1)

- Topic Sentence
- A specific position that supports your thesis
- Minimum of 2 quotes that support this position
- *Lead-in sentences for quotes as well as analysis that supports thesis (use correct citation)

4. Refutation (address an argument against your thesis)

- State a claim that is against your position
- Give an example that supports this claim against you
- Now shut down this argument with evidence that reconfirms your thesis
- Give specific analysis that leaves no question of your position on the topic (do not leave the argument against you hanging)

5. Conclusion

- Answer the question *so what?* What is important to take away from your position?
- Tie up each piece of evidence you have included and briefly re-state your position.
- Re-confirm why your position is accurate as opposed to the counter-argument you addressed.

Format

- 12 pt font
- Times New Roman, Arial, or Helvetica
- 1" margins
- Double-spaced