MLA Compare and Contrast Essay Outline

[Student’s Name]

[Professor’s Name]

[Date]

Essay Topic:

Introductory Paragraph:

- General opening statement. This can be a quotation, or a startling fact or statistic.
- Specifics about topic and text.
- Thesis Statement where you establish the thesis statement and your sub-topics.

Body Paragraphs:

- Topic Sentence/transition and introduction to sub-topic and
- Introduction of example #1:
  - Example / Quotation:
  - Analysis of how the example / quotation proves the argument:
- Introduction of example # 2:
  - Example / Quotation:
  - Analysis of how the example / quotation proves the argument:
- Introduction of example # 3:
  - Example / Quotation:
  - Analysis of how the example / quotation proves the argument:
- Concluding sentence where you re-iterate the connection to the thesis:

Concluding Paragraph:

- Briefly summarize information from the body paragraphs. Tie your sub-topics together and lead into a recap of your thesis statement.
- Re-state and re-phrase thesis and arguments.
- Shift the perspective with a thought-provoking final thought about the topic. This might include a summative judgement of the work, an overall assessment of one aspect of the work, pose a question designed to provoke further consideration of the topic, or suggest further implications for discussion.

Work Cited: