

## Persuasive Essay Outline (5 paragraph essay) notes...

### 1. Introduction paragraph:

- A. Get the readers attention by using a “hook”. **Pull your audience in!**
  - 1. Quote, Fact, something interesting to start essay
- B. Give some **background information about topic**. Explain what the topic is and why it is controversial or important to you.
- C. **Thesis or focus statement (MUST BE STATED in the LAST sentence of your introduction paragraph)**.
  - 1. This is a sentence stating your opinion about the topic and will be proven in the rest of your essay with 3 strong reasons and support.
    - a. Example: I am in favor of \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. Example: I am against \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. Body Paragraphs:

- A. **(1<sup>st</sup> body paragraph) First argument or reason** to support your position
  - 1. Topic sentence explaining your first reason.
    - a. Example: My first reason for being against \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Provide support/evidence to prove your first reason.
    - a. Facts, data, examples, etc.
- B. **(2<sup>nd</sup> body paragraph) Second argument or reason** to support your position.
  - 1. Topic sentence explaining your second reason.
    - a. Example: Another reason I do not support \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Provide support for your second reason
    - a. Facts, data, examples, etc.
- C. **(3<sup>rd</sup> body paragraph) Counter argument and third reason** to support position.
  - 1. State what the other side believes or may argue
    - a. Example: Some may argue \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. Challenge their argument with your third reason and provide support.
    - b. Example: but I disagree because \_\_\_\_\_.

c. Give support such as facts, data, examples, etc. explaining why your opinion is right and the other side is not right.

**3. Conclusion Paragraph:**

A. Sum up your main points and 3 reasons.

B. Restate your thesis. Example: I am strongly against

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C. Final words: last comments or call to action. Encourage the reader to agree with you and take your side on the issue.