

# 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.

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What else will you say to introduce your ideas?

**B.** \_\_\_\_\_

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**C.** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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## II. Body Paragraph #1

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

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

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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.

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**III. Body Paragraph #2**

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

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

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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.

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**IV. Body Paragraph #3**

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

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

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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.

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**IV. Body Paragraph #4? (optional)**

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

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

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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.

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**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!**

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**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. \_\_\_\_\_

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C. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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\_\_\_\_\_

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