

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Miss Crossley

\_\_ LA Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Argumentative Essay Outline

Topic: (the title or topic of your essay): \_\_\_\_\_

#### I. Introductory Paragraph

- a. Opening Statement or Hook: 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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- b. What else will you say to introduce your ideas? This is called background information.

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- c. Thesis Statement: State your opinion on the topic and your three reasons why, without use "I think..." or "I believe...". **THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SENTENCE OF YOUR ENTIRE ESSAY, SO WORD IT CAREFULLY!!!** (List your reasons in the same order you plan to mention them in your body paragraphs.)

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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 full quotes and page numbers for each quote like this (Author, #).

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c. Explanation of Evidence:

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d. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your full quotes and page numbers for each quote like this (Author, #).

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e. Explanation of Evidence:

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f. 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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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 full quotes and page numbers for each quote like this (Author, #).

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c. Explanation of Evidence:

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d. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your full quotes and page numbers for each quote like this (Author, #).

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e. Explanation of Evidence:

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f. 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 full quotes and page numbers for each quote like this (Author, #).

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c. Explanation of Evidence:

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d. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your full quotes and page numbers for each quote like this (Author, #).

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e. Explanation of Evidence:

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f. 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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*\*Please note – you can place this paragraph after any of your body paragraphs. You may want to put it before your strongest argument, so your reader remembers your best point most clearly. \**

V. Counter Argument Paragraph: (This can go in any of your body paragraphs).

- a. Mention one argument the “other side” could mention to argue any of your points.

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- b. Refute the other side’s argument. Tell your readers why the other side is wrong, doesn’t matter, is not as important as your side. Be sure to include evidence and an explanation.

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VI. Concluding Paragraph

a. Summative OR “So-What?” Statement: Reconnection to the Thesis Statement: THIS SHOULD BE THE MIRROR IMAGE OF YOUR THESIS STATEMENT.

i. 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.

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b. Supporting Sentences:

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

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

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

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c. Closing Sentence: This is the final sentence of your essay, which naturally ends your discussion of the topic.

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