

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

Miss Crossley

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

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

### 5 Paragraph Argumentative Essay Outline

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

#### I. Introductory Paragraph

- a. Opening Statement or Hook: Start with a strong visual/story, a leading question, or interesting fact/statistic. This can come from your research/article.

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- b. Add information that will connect your thesis to your hook. Answer “What else does my reader need to know about this topic to understand what I’m arguing?” This is called background information. It helps you provide context for your reader.

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- c. Thesis Statement: Set it up like this: topic + value statement/opinion + 3 reasons. (List your reasons in the same order you plan to mention them in your body paragraphs.) Your thesis is a mini version of your whole essay; it condenses all your main points into ONE sentence.

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III. Body Paragraph #2

- a. Topic Sentence: transition word + topic + opinion + reason. (It might feel redundant, but it will make your points really clear for your reader – which is good.)

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- b. Evidence: Put your direct evidence from your research here. You can do this in the form of a quote, a paraphrase, or a summary. Whatever way you do it, be sure to cite your work like this (Author, #). This can be 1-2 sentences long.

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- c. Explanation of Evidence: Explain to your reader why this evidence is important and how it should make them care. You should clearly tie your topic to your evidence, and show the relevance between the two things. This can be 1-2 sentences long.

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- d. Concluding Sentence: Wrap your points about this reason and tie it into your next reason.

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IV. Body Paragraph #3

- a. Topic Sentence: transition word + topic + opinion + reason. (It might feel redundant, but it will make your points really clear for your reader – which is good.)

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- b. Evidence: Put your direct evidence from your research here. You can do this in the form of a quote, a paraphrase, or a summary. Whatever way you do it, be sure to cite your work like this (Author, #). This can be 1-2 sentences long.

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- c. Explanation of Evidence: Explain to your reader why this evidence is important and how it should make them care. You should clearly tie your topic to your evidence, and show the relevance between the two things. This can be 1-2 sentences long.

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- d. Concluding Sentence: Wrap your points about this reason and tie it into your next reason.

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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 like this “Some may argue...” or “The other side may say...” + one opposing reason.

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- b. Refute the other side’s argument: “However, ...” + 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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- c. 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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- d. Explanation of Evidence: What is the evidence saying? “This shows...”

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- e. Concluding Sentence: Wrap your points about your argument and lead into your conclusion.

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VI. Concluding Paragraph

- a. Restate your thesis statement (using slightly different words): Transition phrase (like "In conclusion") + topic + opinion + 3 reasons.

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- b. Supporting Sentences: Summarize/ Restate your main argumentative points from your body paragraphs. You do NOT need to restate your counter argument.

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/feedback you have on your essay):