

Persuasive Essay Outline (Option #1)

Introduction: (Try to hook reader with a catchy opening. Do not delve into your numerous reasons for choosing your position in the introduction. Provide a brief summary that leads to your thesis.)

Thesis:

1st Argument

Topic Sentence: Main Idea/Direction (because, by, through)

Article/Perspective (line reference) (can include two)

How this article develops topic sentence

2nd Argument

Topic Sentence: Main Idea/Direction (because, by, through)

Article/Perspective (line reference) (If you want two articles to support: We also see in Article _____)

3rd Argument

Topic Sentence: Main Idea/Direction (This is the counterclaim argument)
(Often this counterclaim is a 3rd main point)

Article/Perspective (line reference showing counterclaim)

Knock down (relate paragraph back to the main claim) (Begin with However, Yet...)

Conclusion: (Restate thesis and broaden to a larger scope. Reiterate why this is an important issue.)

Persuasive Essay Outline (Option #2 – Recommended)

Introduction:

Thesis:

1st Body Paragraph

Begin with Counterclaim: Entire paragraph will explain the counter argument

Start with – “*Many believe... Bring in one of the counter perspectives*”

2nd Body Paragraph

1st Main Argument: Begin with a strong TRANSITION “*However, reports have shown that...*”

3rd Body Paragraph

2nd Main Argument: Continue your case for your argument. The 2nd main argument should not simply repeat the points developed in the 1st main argument. Instead, this paragraph should develop a separate, main generalization with specific details, examples, and analysis.

Conclusion

Note: All three-body paragraphs should contain a perspective or perspectives. Creating an outline first is important so that you are not repetitive and that you organize a clear, detailed, thoughtful, and persuasive argument.