



Writing an Essay: Graphic Organizer

Name:

Use this graphic organizer to plan your analytical/persuasive essay. The introduction should start with a broad statement and end with your thesis statement, which “zooms in” on the points you will explore in more depth. The body paragraphs must contain evidence to support your thesis. (The number of body paragraphs coincides with the number of thesis points you plan to defend.) Finally, the conclusion restates your thesis and the main ideas of your paper, and then “zooms out” with an evaluation or reflection on the broader theme — the “big picture.”

1. Introduction

- a. General Statement / Hook
- b. Brief Summary
include Title-Author-Genre
“TAG” if writing about literature
- c. Thesis Statement

2. 1st Body Paragraph: Sub-Topic #1

- a. Transition & Topic Sentence
- b. Evidence / Quote #1 / Analysis
- c. Evidence / Quote #2 / Analysis
- d. Evidence / Quote #3 / Analysis
- e. Clincher / Transition



3. 2nd Body Paragraph: Sub-Topic #2

- a. Transition & Topic Sentence
- b. Evidence / Quote #1 / Analysis
- c. Evidence / Quote #2 / Analysis
- d. Evidence / Quote #3 / Analysis
- e. Clincher / Transition

4. 3rd Body Paragraph: Sub-Topic #3

- a. Transition & Topic Sentence
- b. Evidence / Quote #1 / Analysis
- c. Evidence / Quote #2 / Analysis
- d. Evidence / Quote #3 / Analysis
- e. Clincher / Transition

5. Conclusion

- a. Restate Thesis
(vary wording)
- b. Restate Main Ideas
- c. The Big Picture
(why it all matters)