

Name _____

Five Paragraph Analytical Essay Outline

The **Introduction** moves from general to specific. It starts with a larger, universal context for the main topic and gradually moves to a more specific treatment of that topic in your analytical thesis statement.

- You must have an *analytical thesis statement*, or main idea at the paragraph's end.
- The question itself may often help you create a thesis statement. Do you know how to read the question and turn it around in order to make a thesis?

The **Body** consists of three paragraphs, and offers the proof that will support your thesis.

At the beginning of a paragraph...

- Your *topic sentences* in each paragraph (the first sentence in each paragraph) must state that paragraph's analytical point.
- Begin a new paragraph when you begin to address a new idea.
- Never begin a body paragraph with a factual statement. Do you know why you should not do this?

At the end of a body paragraph...

- Employ a *clincher sentence* at the end of your body paragraphs. It drives home the point of the paragraph in a clear, forceful way. Think of it as the "conclusion" of your paragraph.
- Do you know how to reinforce the paragraph's main point without merely repeating what you have already said?
- Never – absolutely never – place a transitional sentence at the end of a body paragraph.

The **Conclusion** takes the specific supporting details offered and places them, once again, in a larger, universal context. In contrast to the introduction, the conclusion moves from specific to general/universal.

- A *conclusion* does not simply repeat what you have said; it takes the specifics of the essay and applies them in a more universal context.

THESIS STATEMENT:

BODY PARAGRAPH #1

Topic Sentence:

Major Supporting Idea #1:

Minor Support/Textual Example:

Major Supporting Idea #2:

Minor Support/Textual Example:

Major Support #3:

Minor Supporting Idea #3:

Clincher Sentence:

BODY PARAGRAPH #2

Topic Sentence:

Major Support 1:

Minor Support:

Major Support #2:

Minor Support:

Major Support #3:

Minor Support:

Clincher Sentence:

BODY PARAGRAPH #3

Topic Sentence:

Major Support 1:

Minor Support:

Major Support #2:

Minor Support:

Major Support #3:

Minor Support:

Clincher Sentence:

CONCLUSION

Reiteration of Specific Points:

Application of these specific points to a larger universal experience: