

STEP 3: Outline and Drafting

Once you have gathered your 3 sources, selected quotes to use, and crafted a strong thesis statement, it is time to begin drafting your essay. Before you begin your introduction Paragraph, first select at least 3 main points that you can make support your thesis. These 3+ main points will make up the body paragraphs of your essay. Fill in the outline below to give yourself a reference for how to structure your essay as you develop your draft.

Outline

1. Introduction
 - THESIS STATEMENT

2. Body Paragraph #1
 - Main Point

 - Evidence

 - (quote from outside sources?)

3. Body Paragraph #2
 - Main Point

 - Evidence

 - (quote from outside sources?)

4. Body Paragraph #3
 - Main Point

 - Evidence

 - (quote from outside sources?)

5. Conclusion
 - Summarize main ideas, paraphrase/restate thesis, make connection to introduction (if possible).

Very Basic Template for Opinion Essay

Paragraph 1: Introduction

In your intro, be sure to include...

- Your topic (be specific)
- Why this topic is relevant/important (in general and/or to you personally)
- Your claim/opinion about the topic (aka your THESIS STATEMENT)

VERY BASIC TEMPLATE TO START FROM (You will need to develop this further)

An important issue today is _____ . Some people feel that _____ . Others believe that _____ . In my opinion, _____ .

Paragraph 2: Reason One

Support the central claim (aka thesis) from your intro...

- State your first main point to support your opinion.
- Provide explanation/examples/evidence to back up your claims.

VERY BASIC TEMPLATE TO START FROM (You will need to develop this further)

One reason I believe _____ is that _____ . In the article _____ , _____ states that _____ . The article gives examples of _____ that show _____ . I feel that _____ .

Paragraph 3: Reason Two

Unit 2 Assignment: Opinion Essay

Continue to support the central claim (aka thesis) from your intro...

- State your second main point to support your opinion.
- Provide explanation/examples/evidence to back up your claims.
- Check that your whole paragraph is only about Reason Two and that Reason Two is different from Reason One

VERY BASIC TEMPLATE TO START FROM (You will need to develop this further)

Another reason I think that _____ is that

_____. In the article _____, _____ states

that _____.

The article gives examples of _____ that show _____. I

feel that _____.

Paragraph 4: Reason Three / Acknowledge Counterargument

Make third and final point to support the central claim (aka thesis) from your intro...

- State your third main point to support your opinion.
- Mention one argument that someone might make against the claim you make in your essay

VERY BASIC TEMPLATE TO START FROM (You will need to develop this further)

Despite _____, and the evidence that _____

_____, I do not believe this is enough to justify _____,

_____ shows that _____.

I feel that _____.

Paragraph 5: Conclusion

In your conclusion paragraph...

- Mention your topic one last time (general)
- Restate/paraphrase your thesis (specific)
- Summarize main points
- Make connection to introduction (if possible).

Unit 2 Assignment: Opinion Essay