

Persuasive Essay General Outline

- do not use the pronoun “you” anywhere in the essay
- all paragraphs are required to have *five or more* sentences
- refer to the “Perfect Paragraph” foldable in your portfolios

Paragraph 1 || Introduction

Hook Statement or Topic Selection

Background information / Overview of situation / Definition of topic (SES 1)

Background information / Overview of situation / Definition of topic (SES 2)

Introduction of three main claims on the subject

Thesis statement (last sentence)

Paragraph 2 || Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence: Claim #1 (General Commentary)

Secondary Evidence Sentence (Confirm topic; shift toward evidence)

Primary Evidence / Specific Observation—*Personal Evidence*

Analyze, Review, or Summarize Evidence / Interpret or Explain Evidence

Wrap up / Conclude / Transition to next paragraph.

Paragraph 3 || Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence: Claim #2 (General Commentary)

Secondary Evidence Sentence (Confirm topic; shift toward evidence)

Primary Evidence / Specific Observation —*Provide Quotation from article supplied*

Interpret Explain Evidence

Transition to next paragraph.

Paragraph 4 || Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence: Claim #3 (General Commentary)

Secondary Evidence Sentence (Confirm topic; shift toward evidence)

Primary Evidence / Specific Observation—*Personal Evidence*

Analyze, Review, or Summarize Evidence / Interpret or Explain Evidence

Wrap up / Conclude / Transition to next paragraph.

Paragraph 5 || Conclusion

Topic Sentence: Main claim about subject (no repetition of phrases or ideas)

Review, Interpret, or Explain Final Claim (SES 1)

Solution or Compromise or Counter Argument (SES 2)

Final appeal for change of opinion

Wrap up / Conclude