

HOW TO WRITE AN ESSAY

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

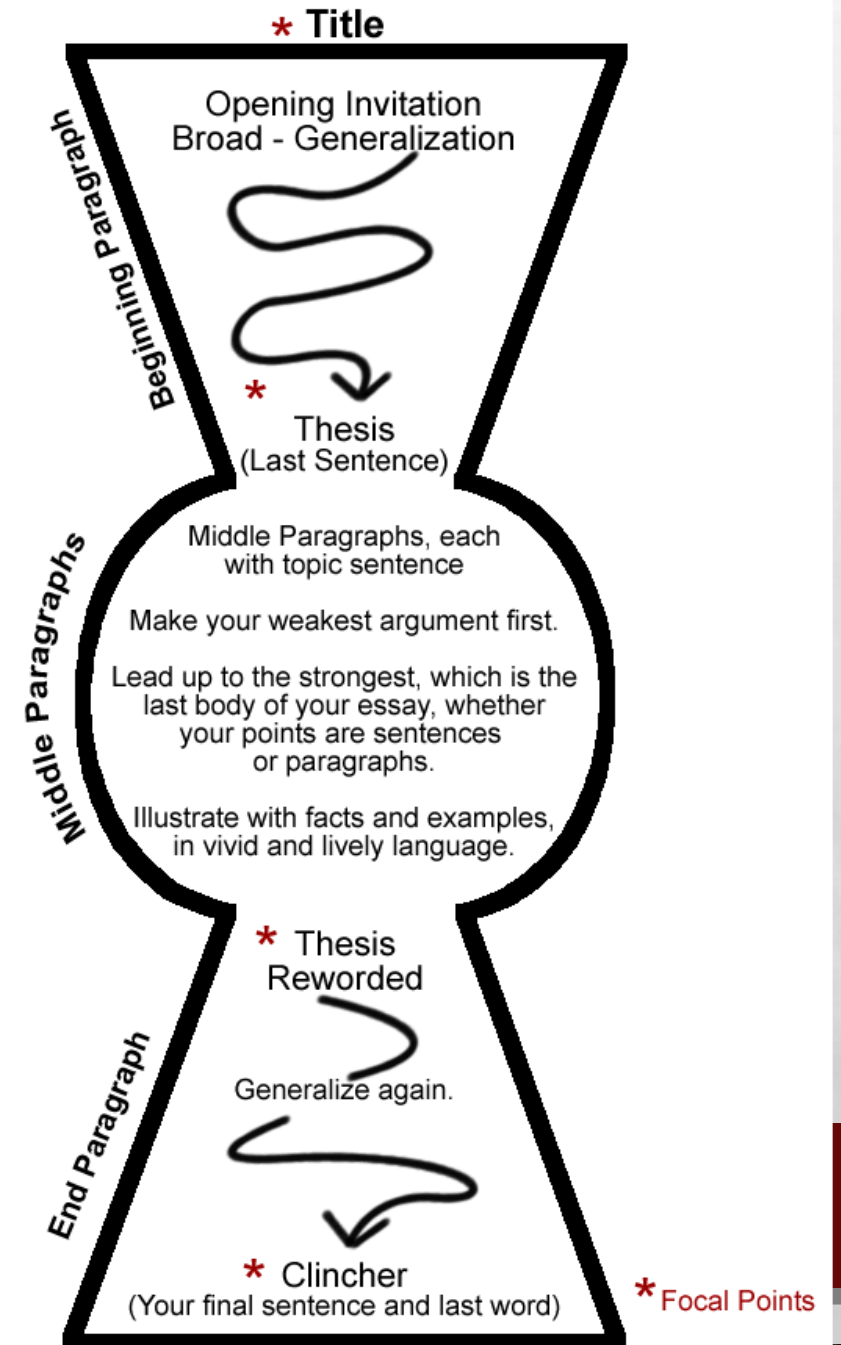


THE 5 PARAGRAPH ESSAY

5 paragraphs:

- Introduction
- Body paragraph 1
- Body paragraph 2
- Body paragraph 3
- Conclusion

**Keyhole
essay
visualization:**



ESSAY TOPIC

Period 1

How does Harper Lee illustrate the moral lesson that it's a sin to kill a mockingbird through three different characters or groups of people?

(I.e. What are three examples of mockingbirds in the text?)

ESSAY TOPIC

Period 3

How does Harper Lee illustrate the concept of empathy in three different characters?

ESSAY TOPIC

Period 4

How does Harper Lee illustrate the concept of courage in three different characters?

1. START WITH YOUR THESIS

- A thesis statement is your argument. It's the point of your whole essay.
- A thesis statement generally comes at the end of your intro paragraph and is a single sentence only.
- For this essay, your thesis should state your argument, plus the 3 characters you will be focusing on in your 3 body paragraphs.

THESIS = ARGUMENT + YOUR 3 POINTS

1. START WITH YOUR THESIS

- Two ways to create an argument:

Deduction: top-down

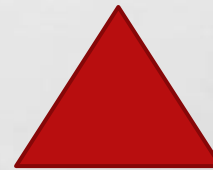
General pattern



Find evidence

Induction: bottom-up

Find a general pattern



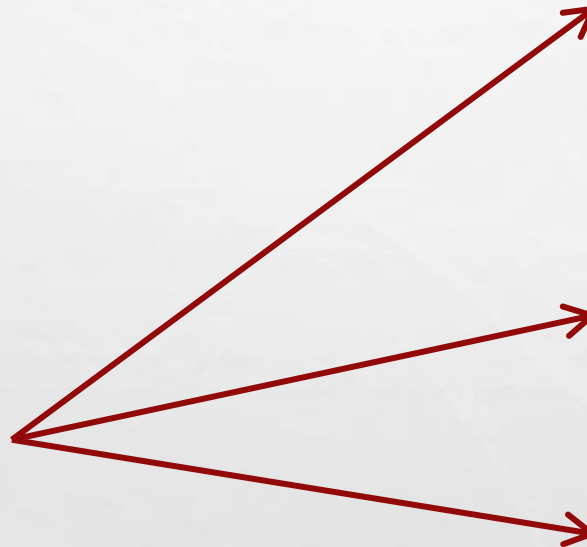
Evidence

2. WRITE AN OUTLINE

- **An outline organizes your thoughts and ensures you have everything you need to include in your essay!**
- **Use the graphic organizer to write your outline.**
- **Get used to this format—when you write essays and provincial exams in the future, you won't be given an outline page to fill out. You'll have to do this on your own!**

2. WRITE AN OUTLINE

THESIS
=
ARGUMENT
+
YOUR 3 POINTS



Ms. J. Love (2018) FIVE-PARAGRAPH ESSAY OUTLINE Name: _____ Date: _____

INTRODUCTION		
Hook:		
Background info:		
Thesis statement:		

Introduction

BODY PARAGRAPH FOR POINT #1		
Topic sentence:		
Evidence: Point:	Evidence: Point:	Evidence: Point:
Evidence:	Evidence:	Evidence:
Explain:	Explain:	Explain:
Concluding sentence:		

Body 1

BODY PARAGRAPH FOR POINT #2		
Topic sentence:		
Evidence: Point:	Evidence: Point:	Evidence: Point:
Evidence:	Evidence:	Evidence:
Explain:	Explain:	Explain:
Concluding sentence:		

Body 2

BODY PARAGRAPH FOR POINT #3		
Topic sentence:		
Evidence: Point:	Evidence: Point:	Evidence: Point:
Evidence:	Evidence:	Evidence:
Explain:	Explain:	Explain:
Concluding sentence:		

Body 3

CONCLUSION		
Thesis and summary:		
Final insight/thought:		

Conclusion

3. FIND EVIDENCE AND INTERPRET

- Remember, for a strong body paragraph, you should have 3 pieces of evidence
- 1-2 of these pieces of evidence should be direct quotations
- You must integrate your quotations and point out the significance so your reader understands how the quotation supports your argument. Don't assume your reader already knows!
- Add your evidence and explanations to your outline

3. FIND EVIDENCE AND INTERPRET

- Some people like to use the acronym PEE to help them write essays
- **P – Point** – what is your example/evidence from the book?
- **E – Evidence** – state your quotation or paraphrase
- **E – Explain** – explain the significance to your argument

3. FIND EVIDENCE AND INTERPRET

- *Points in your argument should go from weakest to strongest*
- Rearrange your body paragraphs and thesis points if needed.
- If you decide to rearrange your body paragraphs, make sure you also change the order of the points in your thesis statement!