Name:

Period:

Argumentative Essay Outline

A clear, concise, and defined thesis statement occurs in the first paragraph of the essay:

*In the first paragraph of an argument essay, students should set the context by reviewing the topic in a general way. Next the author should explain why the topic is important or why readers should care about the issue. Lastly, students should present the thesis statement. It is essential that this thesis statement be appropriately narrowed to follow the guidelines set forth in the assignment.*

**Your intro paragraph outline:**

What is your topic?

What is your point of view on the topic?

Thesis statement:

Body paragraphs that include evidential support:

*Each paragraph should be limited to the discussion of one general idea. This will allow for clarity and direction throughout the essay. In addition, such conciseness creates an ease of readability for one’s audience. It is important to note that each paragraph in the body of the essay must have some logical connection to the thesis statement in the opening paragraph. Some paragraphs will directly support the thesis statement with evidence collected during research. It is also important to explain how and why the evidence supports the thesis.*

**Body paragraph outline:**

**Body paragraph 1:**

**What** is the evidence that supports your claim?

**How** does this text support your claim?

**Why** is this important- try to make it relatable to TODAYS’s readers!

**Body paragraph 2:**

**What** is the evidence that supports your claim?

**How** does this text support your claim?

**Why** is this important- try to make it relatable to TODAYS’s readers!

**Body paragraph 3:**

**What** is the evidence that supports your claim?

**How** does this text support your claim?

**Why** is this important- try to make it relatable to TODAYS’s readers!

A conclusion that does not simply restate the thesis, but readdresses it in light of the evidence provided.

*This is the portion of the essay that will leave the most immediate impression on the mind of the reader. Therefore, it must be effective and logical. Do not introduce any new information into the conclusion; rather, synthesize the information presented in the body of the essay. Restate why the topic is important, review the main points, and review your thesis.*

**Conclusion Outline:**

Restate topic:

Review main points:

Restate thesis:

**\*Remember to use clear and logical transitions between the introduction, body, and conclusion.**

Transitions are the glue that holds the foundation of the essay together. Without logical progression of thought, the reader is unable to follow the essay’s argument, and the structure will collapse. Transitions should wrap up the idea from the previous section and introduce the idea that is to follow in the next section.