

# Standard Essay Outline Guide

Title \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Introductory paragraph

A. Lead-in sentence \_\_\_\_\_

B. Thesis statement/sentence \_\_\_\_\_

C. Reasons why thesis is true (at least 3) \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Body paragraphs

### A. Paragraph #1 = Reason #1

1. Topic sentence \_\_\_\_\_

2. Example \_\_\_\_\_

a. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_

b. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_

3. Example \_\_\_\_\_

a. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_

b. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_

4. Clincher/closing sentence \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Paragraph #2 = Reason #2

1. Topic sentence \_\_\_\_\_

2. Example \_\_\_\_\_

a. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_

b. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_

- 3. Example \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Clincher/closing sentence \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C. Paragraph #3 = Reason #3**

- 1. Topic sentence \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Example \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Example \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Supporting detail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Clincher/closing sentence \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**III. Concluding paragraph**

- A. Restate thesis statement \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- B. State your opinion \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- C. Concluding statement \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Note: This essay outline is only a simplified guide to assist you in writing a well-organized literary essay. As you become more experienced, you will find yourself straying from this guide.