

Term One Final Essay: Organizational Outline

Brainstorm:

The space below should be used to begin organizing your thoughts. It would be best if you take some time to outline your essay before you begin writing.

The organizer below will help you stay on track for your final synthesis essay. You must adhere to the deadlines on the assignment sheet. You will likely need more space than what is provided below.

I. Introductory Paragraph

1. **Hook/Introductory Sentence:** Create a statement that captures your audience's attention while introducing the theme of your essay.

2. **Context:** Explain important information about the topic to your reader.

3. **Thesis Statement:** a direct response to the prompt; it is the claim or declaration that responds directly to the prompt. It should be the final sentence in your introductory paragraph, and it is supported by each of the body paragraphs in the essay. You should not mention any book titles or character names.
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II. Body Paragraph #1

1. **Topic Sentence:** a specific point to support your thesis statement; it does not include book titles or character names
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2. **Context:** include the name of the book from which your evidence will come, a brief summary of the book, and a summary of the situation that revolves around your quote. It's the "who/what/when/where" for your evidence.
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3. **Evidence:** a direct quote from one of the novels. Do not forget to introduce the quote properly (who says it? See context above) and cite it in MLA format.
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4. **Commentary 1:** how does your evidence prove your thesis statement? Make a connection between your evidence and the book, the evidence and the topic sentence, and between the evidence and your thesis statement.

5. **Context:** include the name of the book from which your evidence will come, a brief summary of the book, and a summary of the situation that revolves around your quote. It's the "who/what/when/where" for your evidence.

6. **Evidence:** a direct quote from one of the novels. Do not forget to introduce the quote properly (who says it? See context above) and cite it in MLA format.

7. **Commentary 1:** how does your evidence prove your thesis statement? Make a connection between your evidence and the book, the evidence and the topic sentence, and between the evidence and your thesis statement.

8. **Commentary 2:** what are the connections between your evidence and **why the issue matters** to the world/humanity/society in general.

III. Body Paragraph #2

1. **Topic Sentence:** a specific point to support your thesis statement; it does not include book titles or character names

2. **Context:** include the name of the book from which your evidence will come, a brief summary of the book, and a summary of the situation that revolves around your quote. It's the "who/what/when/where" for your evidence.

3. **Evidence:** a direct quote from one of the novels. Do not forget to introduce the quote properly (who says it? See context above) and cite it in MLA format.

4. **Commentary 1:** how does your evidence prove your thesis statement? Make a connection between your evidence and the book, the evidence and the topic sentence, and between the evidence and your thesis statement.

5. **Context:** include the name of the book from which your evidence will come, a brief summary of the book, and a summary of the situation that revolves around your quote. It's the "who/what/when/where" for your evidence.

6. **Evidence:** a direct quote from one of the novels. Do not forget to introduce the quote properly (who says it? See context above) and cite it in MLA format.

7. **Commentary 1:** how does your evidence prove your thesis statement? Make a connection between your evidence and the book, the evidence and the topic sentence, and between the evidence and your thesis statement.

8. **Commentary 2:** what are the connections between your evidence and **why the issue matters** to the world/humanity/society in general.

V. Conclusion Paragraph

1. **Main Claim:** What was the overall message of your essay?

2. **Context:** Without reiterating your topic sentences or summarizing each body paragraph, how was your message developed? What did you want your audience to learn?

3. **Concluding Statement:** In a universal statement, that is not a call to action, what is the final thought you want your audience to have on your topic? (The “mic-drop” or final “so what?”)
