

***Passing* Argumentative 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 clarify your claim before you begin writing.

The organizer below will help you meet the requirements for this multi-paragraph 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

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

Context: Explain important information about the topic to your reader (typically a 2-3 sentence summary of the novel).

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.

II. Body Paragraph #1

Topic Sentence: a specific point to support your thesis statement

Context: the “who/what/when/where” for your evidence.

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

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.

Context: the “who/what/when/where” for your evidence.

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.

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.

Concluding Statement: restate your topic sentence in a manner that is varied from the original topic sentence and adds an additional layer of depth to your analysis.

III. Body Paragraph #2

Topic Sentence: a specific point to support your thesis statement, including a transition

Context: the “who/what/when/where” for your evidence.

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.

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.

Context: the “who/what/when/where” for your evidence.

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.

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.

Concluding Statement: restate your topic sentence in a manner that is varied from the original topic sentence and adds an additional layer of depth to your analysis.

IV. Body Paragraph #3

Topic Sentence: a specific point to support your thesis statement, including a transition

Context: the “who/what/when/where” for your evidence.

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.

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.

Context: the “who/what/when/where” for your evidence.

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.

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.

Concluding Statement: restate your topic sentence in a manner that is varied from the original topic sentence and adds an additional layer of depth to your analysis.

V. Conclusion Paragraph

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

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

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