

STRUCTURE OF AN OPINION ESSAY

TITLE

Come up with a catchy title!

INTRODUCTION (1 paragraph)

- **Hook:** You must grab the readers' attention. Start with an interesting **quote** ("...") about the topic. Always give credit to the author of the quote.
- **Thesis statement:** What you believe about the topic (your position). Make a clear and one-sided stand!
- **Sources (supporting evidence):** List the sources you have selected and will be using to support your thesis. Choose your examples wisely – details about books, movies, songs, poems that you know well, or even personal experiences.

BODY (3 paragraphs)

- **First Point:** Topic sentence (link your thesis to your first source), explanation, and a closing statement.
- **Second Point:** Topic sentence (link your thesis to your second source), explanation, and a closing statement.
- **Third Point:** Topic sentence (link your thesis to your third source), explanation, and a closing statement.

CONCLUSION (1 paragraph)

You have described an issue (a problem). Now bring your essay to a close by offering **a solution in detail**.

EXTRA TIPS!

- Your essay should be divided in 5 paragraphs.
- Choose your position wisely – the side of the argument that you feel most passionate about.
- Make clear links (connections) between your ideas. See the document "Great Transitions".
- Avoid ideas that may be interesting but do not support your position.
- Avoid overgeneralizing by assuming that because something is true for a small group, it is true for all – jumping to conclusions.
- Avoid contradicting your position.

ESSAY OUTLINE

Title: _____

INTRODUCTION

Hook: _____

Thesis statement: I believe _____

List of sources (supporting evidence): I will be using _____ ,
_____ , and _____ to support my view.

BODY

Topic sentence 1: _____

Explanation: _____

Closing statement: _____

Topic sentence 2: _____

Explanation: _____

Closing statement: _____

Topic sentence 3: _____

Explanation: _____

Closing statement: _____

CONCLUSION

Solution to the issue: In conclusion _____