

THE FIVE- PARAGRAPH ESSAY

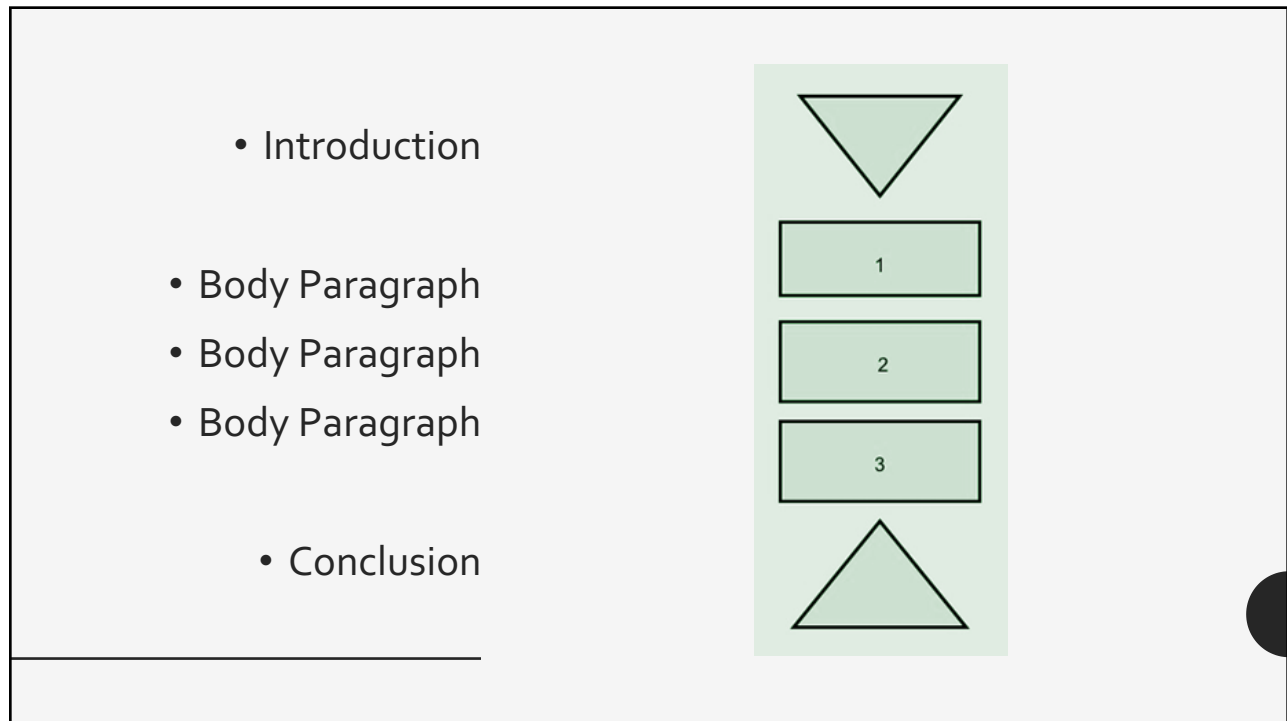
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FORM

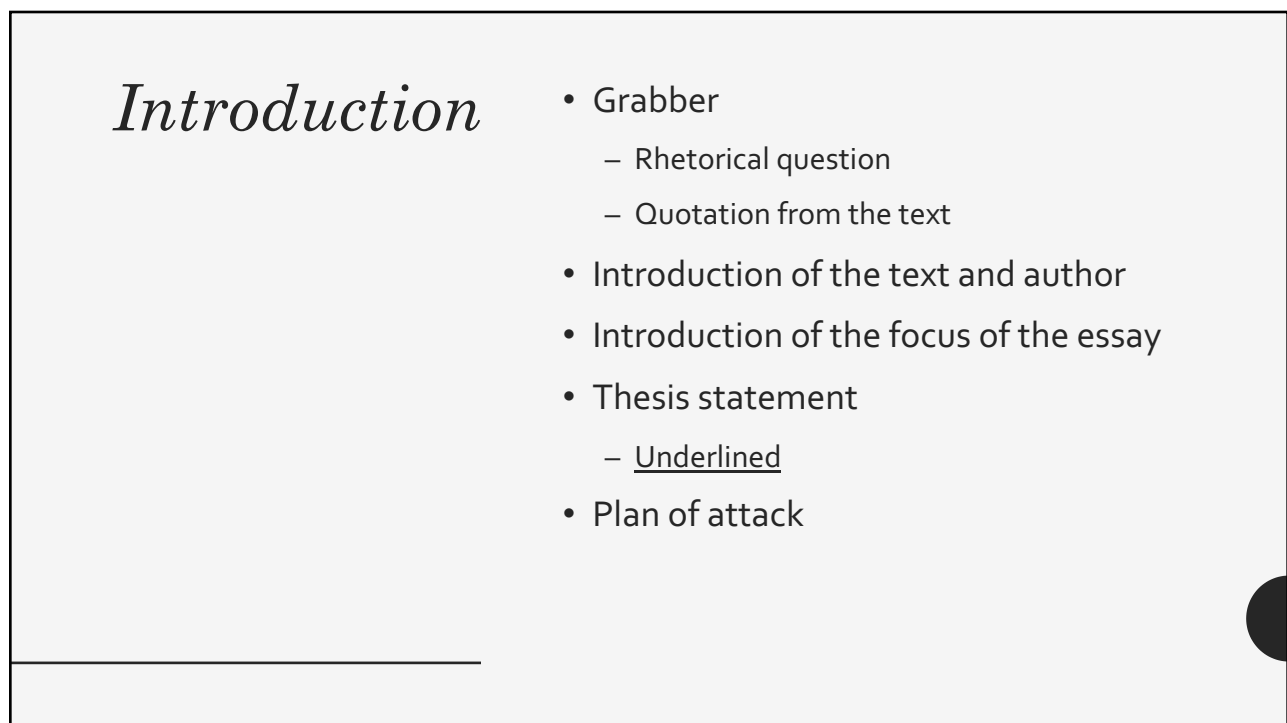
1 ARGUMENT

3 SUPPORTS

2



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Thesis

- Limited Subject
- Specific Predicate
- Unified

- E.g. There are many reasons why Annie is a great teacher.
 - NOT LSU
- E.g. Annie's stubbornness makes her a great teacher to Helen.
 - LSU

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Supports (Plan of Attack)

- Should be examples or occurrences of the subject of the thesis
- Should be structured in the same way as the thesis

- **Thesis:** Annie's stubbornness makes her a great teacher to Helen.
- **Plan of Attack:** Annie's stubbornness in (1) disciplining Helen, (2) teaching Helen language, and (3) changing Kate and Keller's parenting makes her a great teacher.

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Supports— Body Paragraphs

- Body Paragraph Structure
 - A. Topic sentence
 - B. Concrete detail and commentary sentences to provide context
 - C. Integrated quotation
 - D. Parenthetical citation
 - E. Analysis of quotation
 - F. Transition sentence (or brief summary sentence for body #3)

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Support Paragraphs

- Start with parallel topic sentences
 - Topic sentences function as the thesis for their specific paragraph
 - All topic sentences follow the same EXACT format
 1. Annie's stubbornness in disciplining Helen makes her a great teacher.
 2. Annie's stubbornness in teaching Helen language makes her a great teacher.
 3. Annie's stubbornness in changing Kate and Keller's parenting makes her a great teacher.

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Support Paragraphs

- After the topic sentence, give context/background from the text for your focus in that paragraph
- Include one quotation from the text in each paragraph
 - Properly introduced and cited
- Engage with the quote through analysis of the **language, significance, and context**

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Integrating Quotations

- Write a short sentence that previews what is happening in the quotation.
 - E.g. The speaker in "The Raven" describes the setting of the poem: "it was in the bleak December;/ And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor" (7-8).
- Rewrite part of the quotation in your own words.
 - E.g. The speaker describes the setting as "bleak" and says that "each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor" in his home (7-8).
- If it is dialogue, state who said the words.
 - E.g. The speaker says, "'Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door" (16).

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Do Not Announce Quotations

- Integrations should be smooth, academic, and sophisticated.
- Avoid calling attention to the quotation in any of the following ways:
 - On page 55 the narrator says...
 - A quotation on that proves my point is...
- ~~On page 55 the narrator says...~~
- ~~A quotation on that proves my point is...~~

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Transition Words and Phrases

Agreement / Addition / Similarity	in the first place	again	moreover
	not only ... but also	to	as well as
	as a matter of fact	and	together with
	in like manner	also	of course
	in addition	then	likewise
	coupled with	equally	comparatively
	in the same fashion / way	identically	correspondingly
	first, second, third	uniquely	similarly
	in the light of	like	furthermore
	not to mention	as	additionally
to say nothing of	too		
equally important			
by the same token			
Conclusion / Summary / Restatement	as can be seen	after all	overall
	generally speaking	in fact	ordinarily
	in the final analysis	in summary	usually
	all things considered	in conclusion	by and large
	as shown above	in short	to sum up
	in the long run	in brief	on the whole
	given these points	in essence	in any event
	as has been noted	to summarize	in either case
	in a word	on balance	all in all
	for the most part	altogether	

Support Paragraphs

- Write a concluding sentence about the central point in the paragraph
- Then, write a transition sentence to move fluidly from one paragraph to the next

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Conclusion

- Restate (in new words) your thesis and plan of attack
- Then:
 - Bring up a quotation or an event in the text that relates to your argument, but that you did not have the chance to discuss
 - Discuss the effects of your argument on the meaning of the text or the outcome for the characters
 - Ask a rhetorical question that relates to your thesis, but offers a new opportunity for discussion

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Works Cited

- The Works Cited page is essentially a bibliography. It lists the works you, the student, have consulted in the process of writing your essay (or report).
- Pay attention to PUNCTUATION!
- Example for *The Pearl*:

Work Cited

Steinbeck, John. *The Pearl*. Penguin, 2000.

Author Last Name, Author First Name. *Title of Book*.
 Publisher Name, Year of Publication.

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