

The Assignment...

Your assignment is to write a literary essay on a topic based on Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. You will use **MLA Style** and **direct evidence** from the novel to support the topic you choose and the thesis you develop.

You will follow a number of steps prior writing the essay. These steps include:

- Developing a topic and thesis based on the topic provided
- Completing a graphic organizer outline to demonstrate your understanding of the topic
- Writing a rough copy of your essay
- Editing your rough copy
- Completing a final copy in the correct format

The Topics...

You are required to choose **one** of the following topics for your essay. After choosing a topic you will develop a thesis that aims to argue a point based on the topic. Your essay will be structured around this thesis.

1. Identify the importance of moral lessons within the novel
2. Explain the development of Scout's character throughout the novel
3. Discuss the similarities and differences between the film and novel versions of the story

The Marks...

It is important that you complete each step in order to achieve the highest marks on this assignment.

COMPLETED OUTLINE: /10 (Application)

Demonstrates understanding of required parts of essay.
Information is coherent and logical

ROUGH COPY & EDITING: /10 (Communication/Application)

Used suggestions from edited rough copy.
Essay is complete, thoughtful and original
Paragraphs are clear and effective

FINAL COPY /30 (Application)

Essay is free of spelling & grammar errors
Essay is coherent
Essay uses a variety of supporting devices

Due Date...

Completed Outline: Due _____

Rough Copy: Due _____

Final Copy: Due _____

COMPARE AND CONTRAST – BLOCK METHOD OUTLINE

THESIS (ARGUMENT):

1. INTRODUCTION (Thesis, Main Points, Transition/Concluding Sentence/Hook)

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2. PART A (Including examples, reasons, explanations and expanded ideas)

PART A: _____

A. POINT 1:

B. POINT 2:

C. POINT 3:

Transition: _____

3. PART B (Including examples, reasons, explanations and expanded ideas)

PART B: _____

A. POINT 1:

B. POINT 2:

C. POINT 3:

Transition: _____

4. CONCLUSION (Restate thesis, summarize argument and your findings/final hook)

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COMPARE AND CONTRAST – POINT-BY-POINT OUTLINE

THESIS (ARGUMENT):

1. INTRODUCTION (Thesis, Main Points, Transition/Concluding Sentence/Hook)

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2. POINT 1 (Including examples, reasons, explanations and expanded ideas)

POINT 1: _____

PARA 1 (ABOUT POINT A):

PARA 2 (ABOUT POINT B):

Transition: _____

3. POINT 2 (Including examples, reasons, explanations and expanded ideas)

POINT 2: _____

PARA 3 (ABOUT POINT A):

PARA 4 (ABOUT POINT B):

Transition: _____

4. POINT 3 (Including examples reasons, explanations and expanded ideas)

POINT 3: _____

PARA 5 (ABOUT POINT A):

PARA 6 (ABOUT POINT B):

Transition: _____

5. CONCLUSION (Restate thesis, summarize argument and your findings/final hook)

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... ESSAY EDITING CHECKLIST...

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Captures attention Yes | No
- 2. Provides connection to topic Yes | No
- 3. Supporting points included for organization Yes | No
- 4. Hook/Transition included Yes | No
- 5. Clear thesis Yes | No
- 6. What is author's thesis: _____

BODY PARAGRAPH #1

- 1. Contains clear topic sentence Yes | No
- 2. Contains at least three specific pieces of evidence to support the topic Yes | No
- 3. List the support and what type it is (i.e. example, reason, explanation, etc.)
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
- 4. Support makes WHY/HOW connections by the writer to the thesis Yes | No
- 5. The support clear and effective, and connected to the topic and thesis Yes | No
- 6. Paragraph contains transition phrase Yes | No

BODY PARAGRAPH #2

- 1. Contains clear topic sentence Yes | No
- 2. Contains at least three specific pieces of evidence to support the topic Yes | No
- 3. List the support and what type it is (i.e. example, reason, explanation, etc.)
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. _____
- 4. Support makes WHY/HOW connections by the writer to the thesis Yes | No
- 5. The support clear and effective, and connected to the topic and thesis Yes | No
- 6. Paragraph contains transition phrase Yes | No

BODY PARAGRAPH #3

- 1. Contains clear topic sentence Yes | No
- 2. Contains at least three specific pieces of evidence to support the topic Yes | No
- 3. List the support and what type it is (i.e. example, reason, explanation, etc.)
 - g. _____
 - h. _____
 - i. _____
- 4. Support makes WHY/HOW connections by the writer to the thesis Yes | No
- 5. The support clear and effective, and connected to the topic and thesis Yes | No
- 6. Paragraph contains transition phrase Yes | No

CONCLUSION

- 1. Restates opinion/thesis in different words Yes | No
- 2. Includes a summary of the different topics/reasons Yes | No
- 3. Includes a final clincher/call-to-action/closing statement Yes | No

...PERSUASIVE ESSAY EDITING CHECKLIST...

SOURCES

- 1. All sources have been properly formatted in essay (including quotes, paraphrase, etc.) Yes | No
- 2. A "WORKS CITED" page has been included at the end of the essay, if necessary Yes | No

TONE/VOICE/WORD CHOICE

- 1. Writer's tone is appropriate for the audience Yes | No
- 2. Writer's voice seems honest and sincere Yes | No
- 3. The writer uses strong, persuasive verbs Yes | No
- 4. Writer avoids common phrases and cliché statements Yes | No
- 5. Verb tense in the essay is in the present tense Yes | No

IDEAS AND CONTENT

- 1. Body paragraphs include **specific** support and connections to the topic Yes | No
- 2. Ideas are clear and sensible Yes | No

SPELLING/GRAMMAR/FORMATting

- 1. Major spelling and grammar errors have been noted for author Yes | No
- 2. The essay includes a title, author/class information, and page numbers Yes | No
- 3. Essay is double-spaced, typed in 11 or 12 size regular font Yes | No

WHAT IS THE BEST PART ABOUT THE ESSAY YOU HAVE EDITED?

WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS CAN YOU PROVIDE THE WRITER?

ESSAY WRITTEN BY: _____ (Print Name)

EDITED BY: _____ (Print Name)