Essay Outline Template

Due date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Working title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Introduction (while these are listed in a certain order here, they can be rearranged)

Establish context: (i.e. introduce broad topic of the paper, why it is important, necessary background info, and narrow topic to specific concern of the paper):

Provide a thesis (state an arguable position on the topic, what you seek to prove, or state subjects to be compared, causes and effects to be discussed, etc.):

Provide a roadmap for the essay (be explicit about what direction you will take and/or what subtopics you will discuss and in what order that will support your thesis):

Body Paragraphs(repeat for as many body paragraphs as you need)

Topic sentence (general statement of one of the topics and potential subtopics that connects to the thesis):

Supporting details (i.e. evidence, examples, facts, statistics, reasons, quotable experts):

In-text citation: [examples: MLA: (Brown 97), APA: (Brown, 1998, p. 97)]   (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

Your analysis of/commentary on supporting details (why these details matter to your reader, or relate to your topic sentence or thesis):

Supporting Details (provide as much supporting evidence as you feel you need to make a strong case:

In-text citation: (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

Your analysis of/commentary on supporting details:

Wrap-up/transitional statement (i.e. write a sentence that concludes the paragraph, brings the paragraph back to your thesis, and/or may transition the paragraph’s topic to the next paragraph):

**Note:** You may have as many body paragraphs as you feel are necessary to explore your main points (and the sub-points that may fall under the main points) in the paper. For longer essays with sections, you might have multiple body paragraphs per section of a paper. A subtopic may take more than one paragraph to adequately explore. The ultimate design of the paper will depend on how you organize and develop your ideas. Body paragraphs can have additional roles, including: synthesis, transition, or mini-intros or conclusions for longer essays with sections.

Conclusion (The purpose of the conclusion is to wrap up the paper by pulling together the ideas explored in your paper, and then talking about the significance of your exploration. Introductions tend to bring a reader into the world of the essay; the conclusion brings the reader back out of the essay and into the world)

Summarize importance of the issue and perhaps how the ideas explored come together:

Wrap It up with a provocative thought to leave the reader with:

# Works Cited/References

(List alphabetically and with a hanging indent, on a separate page)

Example in MLA:

Mackiewicz, Jo and Isabelle Thompson. "Instruction, Cognitive Scaffolding, and Motivational Scaffolding in Writing Center Tutoring." *Composition Studies*, vol. 42, no. 1, Spring2014, pp. 54-78. EBSCO*host*, ezproxy.pierce.ctc.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=96185126&scope=site.

Example in APA:

Mackiewicz, J., & Thompson, I. (2014). Instruction, Cognitive Scaffolding, and Motivational Scaffolding in Writing Center Tutoring. *Composition Studies*, *42*(1), 54-78.

Body Paragraph template(repeat for as many body paragraphs as you need)

Topic sentence (general statement of one of the topics and potential subtopics that connects to the thesis):

Supporting details (i.e. evidence, examples, facts, statistics, reasons, quotable experts):

In-text citation: [examples: MLA: (Brown 97), APA: (Brown, 1998, p. 97)]   (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

Your analysis of/commentary on supporting details (why these details matter to your reader, or relate to your topic sentence or thesis):

Supporting Details (provide as much supporting evidence as you feel you need to make a strong case:

In-text citation: (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

Your analysis of/commentary on supporting details:

Wrap-up/transitional statement (i.e. write a sentence that concludes the paragraph, brings the paragraph back to your thesis, and/or may transition the paragraph’s topic to the next paragraph):