

Third out of class essay



Body The body of your essay will provide specific and relevant details that develop and support your opinion on the topic. The details should be reasons supportable with facts, not more opinions. The body paragraphs will examine each fact you are presenting and explain to readers how this fact (or set of multiple facts) relates to our thesis (point or opinion). Your thesis in some manner. (See Chapters 53 and 54 in LB Brief.) You must cite and list all the texts you use as sources and list them at the end of your essay.

See Chapter 56, " MALL Documentation and Format," in LB Brief for guidelines and directions. Most of your body paragraphs will begin with a statement of a reason for the position you are taking on the topic. The sentences that follow will offer specific details about the topic and related texts to support, clarify, and emphasize your thesis. Wrap up the paragraph by showing the readers that the details do in fact provide credible purport for your opinion and reasoning. Each paragraph should fulfill a different purpose in support of your thesis.

You must now explain how the ideas in these texts (sources) relate to your ideas (see pages 102-104 in LB Brief). Choose among the following, as appropriate for the particular source and your thesis: (1) Explain why you agree with the author and relate his or her ideas to your thesis. You must do more than simply repeat the author's ideas and support. You need to extend the author's ideas and relate them to topics the author does not mention. 2) Agree with the author on some ideas but disagree on others as they relate to your thesis.

Be specific about which ideas you accept and which ideas you do not accept.

(3) Focus on only one point the author makes and explain why you disagree with him or her on that point as it relates to your thesis. (4) Explain how the author gets his or her points across, and comment on whether you think the author's strategies are effective and why you think so. (5) Focus on only one strategy the author uses and explain how it serves (or fails to serve) the author's purpose. Cite specific sections of the text that illustrate and evolve your critique.

Relate the explanation to your own opinion on the topic. You develop a thesis by (1) giving the reasons for the position you are taking, (2) then backing up those reasons with factual details, and (3) then explaining how those details relate to your thesis or position. The body paragraphs will consist of different approaches to developing your thesis. See pages 53-59 in LB Brief, and use two or more of the following strategies: Narration: retelling a story, anecdote, or historical event that supports the trustworthiness of your thesis readers to comprehend your point

Illustration: presenting specific examples or instances that back up your main idea Definition: identifying boundaries, contrasting things that might be wrongly mistaken for each other, clarifying abstract or complex terms

Analysis: dividing a topic or text into its logical parts to show readers how the parts relate to each other, or looking at a familiar topic or text from an unusual angle to show that it is more complex or simple than the readers might have at first thought Classification: listing the types, sorts, classes, levels, kinds, or genres of a topic to identify more easily understood "

pockets" for further discussion

Comparison: comparing or contrasting two or more topics to highlight qualities that support your idea or making an analogy, explaining something unknown or complicated by comparing it to something readers already know and understand Cause-and-effect analysis: dividing causes from effects to explain how or why something relating to your idea happened or might happen Process analysis: dividing a process into steps, phases, or stages to help readers understand its connection to your thesis Make sure that you use transitions and other devices for coherence that help readers see how one sentence relates to the next and how one paragraph relates to the next, as well as to your overall point.

See Chapter 7 (" Paragraphs") in LB Brief to learn some strategies for achieving unity and coherence. Conclusion Your conclusion should probably be the shortest section of your essay, comprising about a tenth of the whole (120-240 words). Pages 62-63 in LB Brief list some helpful strategies for concluding your essay. The main reason for a conclusion is to let readers know that you have (you hope) fully supported your opinion with the relevant available facts and that your opinion on the topic is important for them to consider. Due Date/Grading You must bring a thesis statement for this synthesis essay (typed, double-spaced, in MALL format) on Wednesday, 29 October.