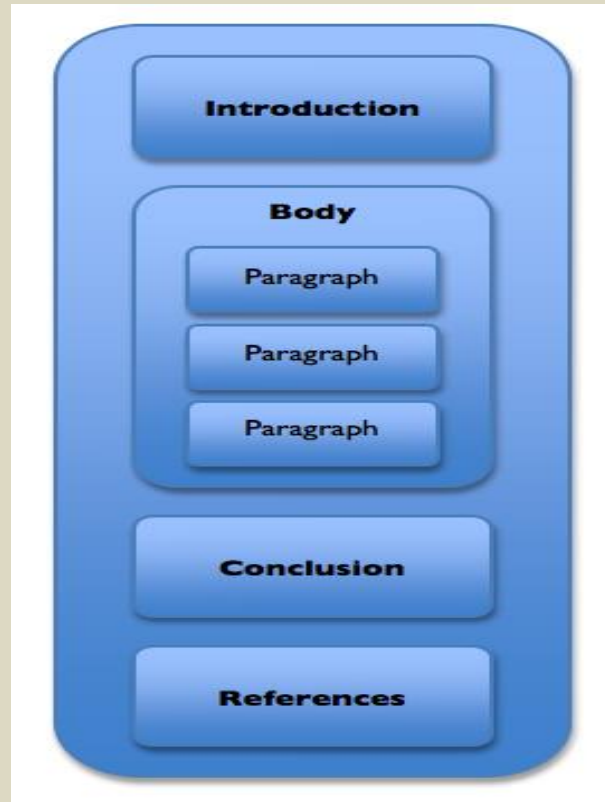


Structure



Writing 2101

Dr. Andrew Chater

Week 8

Arguments

- Divide up your argument into sub-arguments.
- Sub-arguments are the reasons that your thesis is true.
- Your paper also should summarize and debunk counter-arguments.

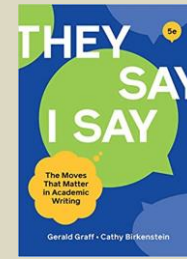
In this paper, I argue that it is necessary to reform the Canadian Senate.

- It is necessary to reform the Canadian Senate because it is an undemocratic institution.
- Canadian Senate reform is necessary because the institution is not representative.
- The majority of Canadians do not support the institution, which necessitates reform.
- Some political scientists argue that Canadian Senate reform is not necessary because the institution accomplishes its purpose; however, this idea is not valid.
- Some political scientists predict that the appointed nature of the Canadian Senate means that it will be a less partisan body; however, in reality, this prediction is not true.

Which
format
will you
choose?



Structure

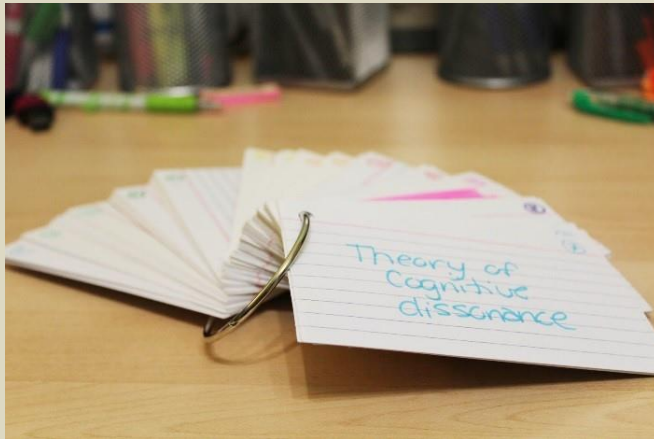


Essay Format Option One (Hamburger+)	Essay Format Option Two (They Say/I Say)
Introduction	Introduction
Background (?)	Background (?)
Argument 1	Counter-argument
Argument 2	Argument
Argument 3 (and 4 and 5 and so on)	Counter-argument
Counter-argument	Argument
Response	Counter-argument (and so on)
Counter-argument (and so on)	Argument (and so on)
Response (and so on)	Conclusion
Conclusion	

Have as many arguments and counter-arguments as are necessary to make your thesis compelling, rather than a set number of arguments and counter-arguments.

Outlines

- Make an outline
 - On a computer
 - With cue cards



Essay outline

Topic

Attention Getter:

Thesis:

Point 1

Point 2

Point 3

Support/examples

Support/examples

Support/examples

Conclusion

eslflow.com

Outlines

How do I create an outline?

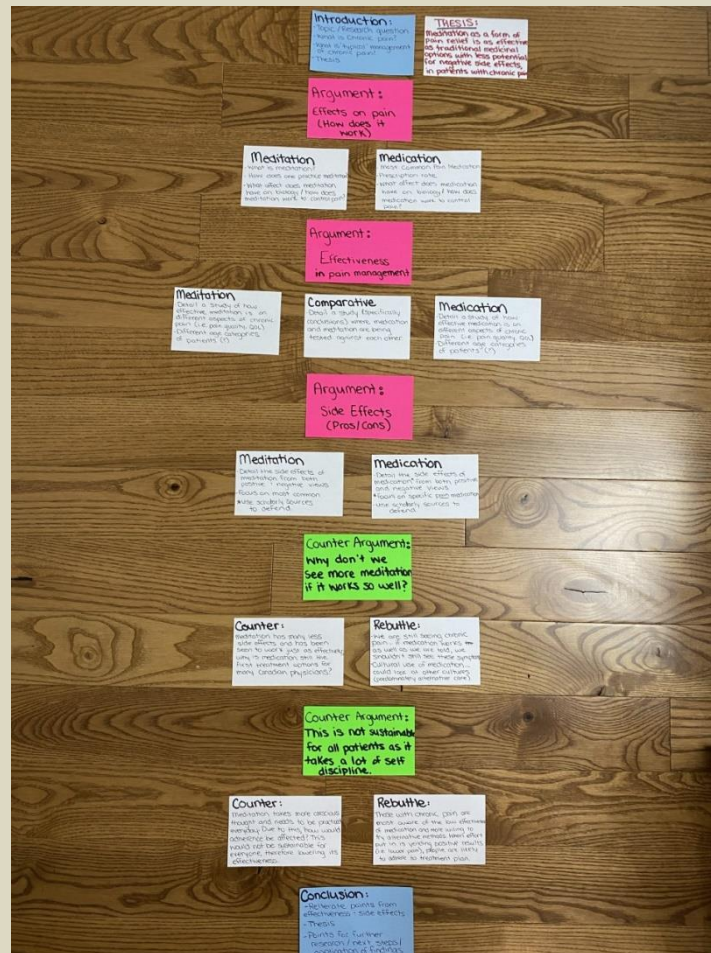
- Determine the purpose of your paper.
- Determine the audience you are writing for.
- Develop the thesis of your paper.

Then:

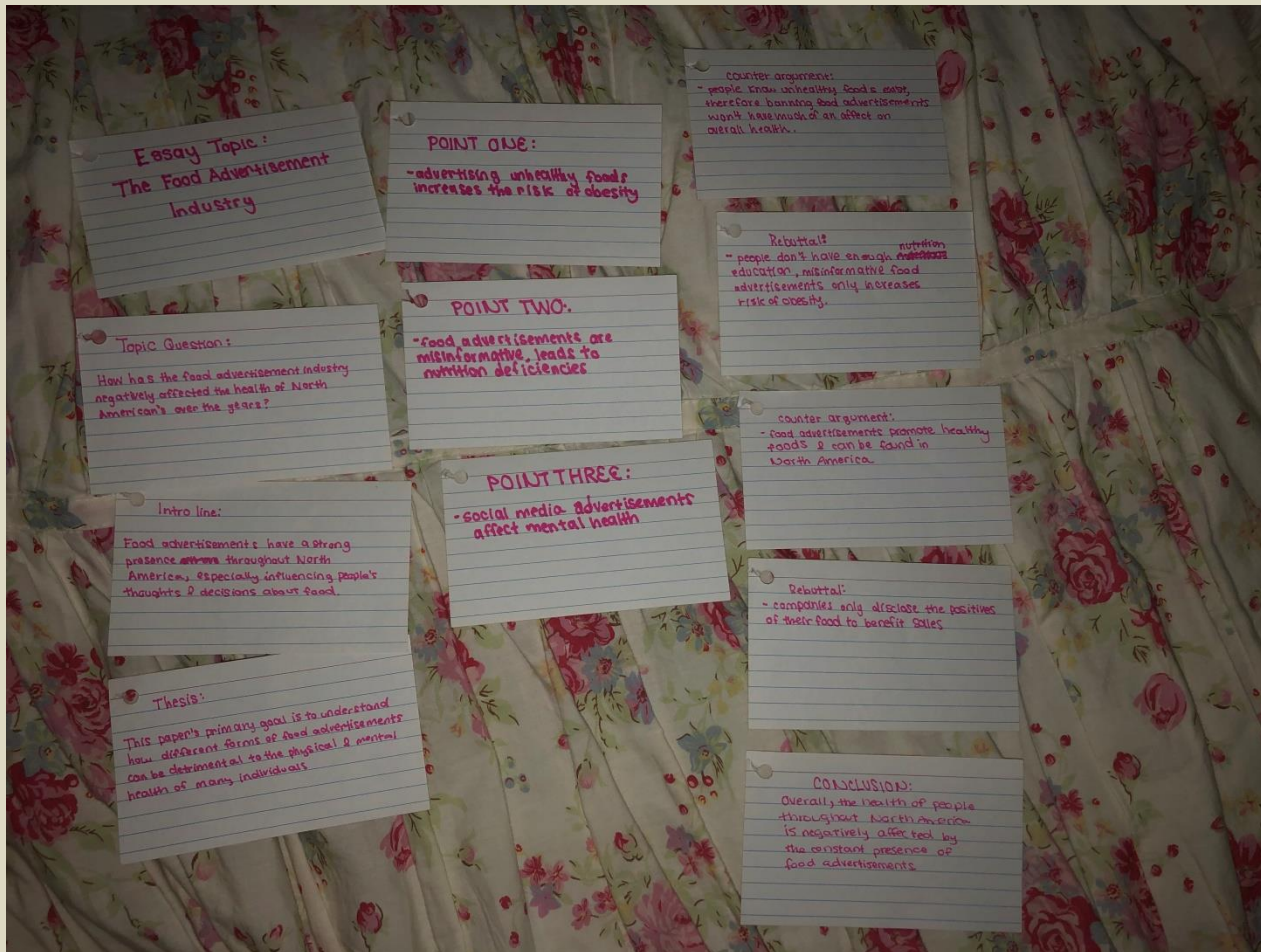
- **Brainstorm:** List all the ideas that you want to include in your paper.
- **Organize:** Group related ideas together.
- **Order:** Arrange material in subsections from general to specific or from abstract to concrete.
- **Label:** Create main and sub headings.

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/the_writing_process/developing_an_outline/how_to_outline.html

Outlines



Outlines



Introductory Paragraph

1. Hook (interesting fact or puzzle)
2. Key background information and definitions
3. Research question
4. Thesis
5. Summary of arguments and counter-arguments
 - Students often forget #5



Intro Example

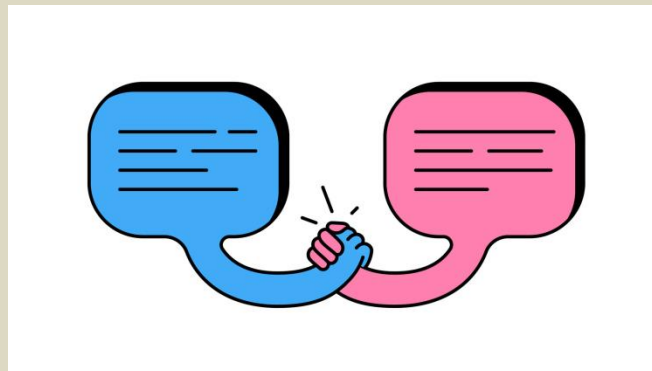
University is a daunting prospect for incoming students, but with hard work, most will thrive. Canadian students coming to university from high school face a difficult adjustment to a new way of learning in a less-structured environment. Whereas high school teachers might give personal reminders about assignments and reach out to those struggling, university professors are unlikely to do the same. A university schedule is different every day, in contrast to the standard timetable of Canadian high schools. How can Canadian university students succeed in the university environment? This paper argues that Canadian students will have more success at university if they stay organized. It makes three arguments that examine “organization” in various ways. First, students should complete coursework every day. Second, it is important to use a day planner. Finally, class attendance, along with diligent note taking, is crucial to success. Some students say that they have had academic success so far without such actions, which shows that organization is not essential. However, the university environment is different enough that new study techniques are necessary.

Adapted from: http://success.uwo.ca/new_students/tips_for_success_at_university.html

Argument Paragraphs

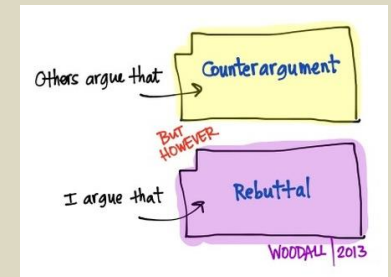
- Give reasons that your thesis is true.
- It can be one paragraph, or multiple paragraphs.
- Frequent Issues
 - Topic sentences do not echo thesis
 - Topic sentences do not accurately reflect paragraph
 - Evidence lacks specific detail
 - Where did the study take place?
 - Who did the study?
 - When did they do it?
 - What did they find?
 - How did they collect their information?

Point -> Proof -> Point -> Proof



Counter-Argument Paragraphs

- Summarize views that are contrary to your thesis.
- Rebut the argument by re-affirming your argument.
- Frequent Issues
 - Topic sentences do not clearly indicate nature of paragraph
 - Counter-arguments are missing
 - Counter-arguments are off-topic
 - Rebuttal is missing
 - Rebuttal is off-topic
 - Argument seems contradictory
 - Begin with something like, “Critics argue that . . . However . . .”



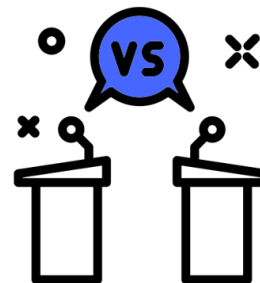
Cite a source in your counter-argument to show that someone would actually make the argument (that it is not a “straw man”).

Point -> Example -> Critique

Counter-Argument Paragraphs

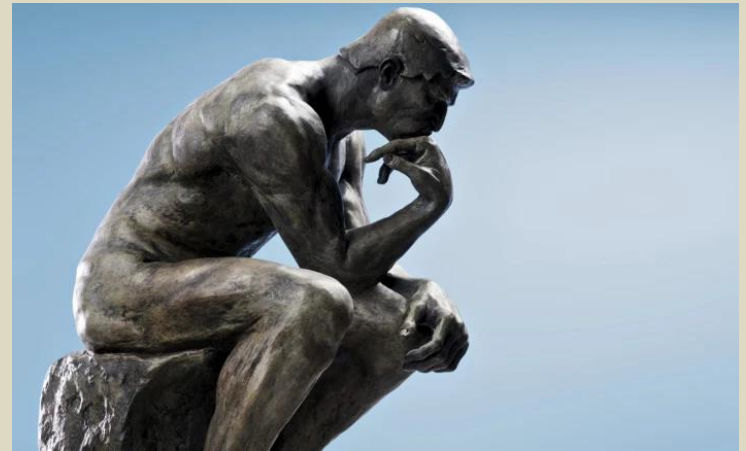
- How does one find counter-arguments?
 - Find a journal article or book that disagrees with your argument.
 - Consult the literature reviews in the papers you have found.
 - Look for a popular source that argues the opposite of your view.
 - Use logic.

**Think of a
Counter-
Argument**





Conclusion Paragraph

1. Research question
2. Thesis
3. Summary of arguments
4. Profound final thought or directions for future research



Some Common Issues

- No counter-arguments present
- Not enough academic sources
- Citation format is inconsistent (information, punctuation or capitalization)

Homilies, Lectures and Sermons Bibliography  APA Style (6th ed.) 
109 Citations

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 1). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.
26

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 2). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.
32

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 3). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.

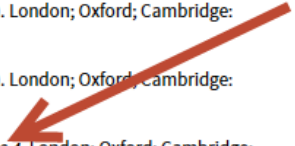
Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 5). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 6). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 7). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons* (Vol. 8). London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.

Newman, J. H. (1868). *Parochial and plain sermons, volume 4*. London; Oxford; Cambridge: Rivingtons.



Lastly

- Students often have trouble writing 8 full pages.
- The solution?: Do more research!
 - If you are having trouble reaching the end, it might mean that you need to do more research!
 - Find new research or re-read the research you have found.

