

# ESSAY OUTLINE

"A plan is a crucial part of any successful assignment." - Anonymous

## PARAGRAPH 1: Introduction

- author, title, and genre (essay or short story)
- main idea expressed by the author
- your thesis statement
- very brief summary of points to be raised in your essay

## PARAGRAPH 2: Your First Idea

- topic sentence
- examples or details from the text
- explanation of their significance or implications
- concluding sentence

## PARAGRAPH 3: Your Second Idea

- topic sentence
- examples or details from the text
- explanation of their significance or implications
- concluding sentence

## PARAGRAPH 4: Your Third Idea

- topic sentence
- examples or details from the text
- explanation of their significance or implications
- concluding sentence

## PARAGRAPH 5: Conclusion

- restatement of your thesis
- recap of your major points
- your final thoughts

You may have more than three body paragraphs if you have more than three ideas.