# **Outline for Writing a Persuasive Essay**

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**I. Introduction (Note: A-C are in one paragraph)**

**A.  Attention Getter: 1) a quotation 2) a fact or statistic 3) a rhetorical question that cannot be answered with a simple yes or no 4) a general observation about the topic at hand)**

**B. Context (background information—name of the work, the author, and a very brief summary of the work)**

**C. Thesis Sentence**

**II.       Body: Paragraph One**

**Note: The transition and topic sentence may be in the same sentence,  A. Transition:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Topic Sentence\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**C. Concrete Detail**

**D. Commentary (2-3 comments per CD)\_**

**E. Concrete Detail**

**F. Commentary (2-3 comments per CD)\_**

**III.      Body: Paragraph Two**

**Note: The transition and topic sentence may be in the same sentence.**

**A. Transition:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Topic Sentence\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**C. Concrete Detail**

**D. Commentary (2-3 comments per CD)\_**

**E. Concrete Detail**

**F. Commentary (2-3 comments per CD)\_**

**IV.      Counter Argument**

**Note: The transition and topic sentence may be in the same sentence.  
A. Transition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Counter Argument.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**C. Rebuttal (Your Response)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**D. Concrete Detail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**E. Commentary (2-3 comments per CD)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**V.      Conclusion**

**Note: The transition and thesis may be in one sentence.**

**A. Transition word or phrase:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Restate thesis sentence  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**C. Summarize arguments/points (should only be one sentence)**

**1)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**D. Call to action/"So what?"**

**Do any of the following things: 1) Explain why the topic is universal in its nature—how it affects the reader 2) Expand on the narrow topic to a more universal observation about life, history, literature, etc. 3) Motivate the reader to take a certain action or think in a certain manner.**

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