



ADVANCED ESSAY WRITING

The Research Paper Graphic Organizer

Focus

Thesis Statement

What are you attempting to explain, prove, or persuade the reader to do? Make sure your answer is a complete sentence.

Content

Argument or Subtopic

What is one argument or subtopic that develops your thesis statement?

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Style

CLAIMS

Make sure to begin your essay with a creative claim—direct or “grabbing” the reader’s attention and establishing a creative thread that you can carry through to your conclusion and your closing.

PHRASES

An essay should leave a final and lasting impression on the reader. The best essays are ones that refer back to the creative idea you used in your proffer.

Caution: How will you creatively capture or “grab” the reader’s interest?

Tip-off: What thought-provoking idea will you offer the reader to think about?

Organization

The arrangement of content. The order developed and treatment of ideas and entire paragraphs using transitional devices and including introduction and conclusion.

Alert!

Look over your three arguments or subtopics and decide the best order for the three paragraphs that will make up the body of your essay. Use the checklist provided to determine the order in which you will present your three arguments or subtopics.

Conventions

Alert!