

**WGSS SOCIAL STUDIES: ESSAY OUTLINE**

TOPIC:

**A. INTRODUCTION**

Sentence #1: Introduce your topic in an interesting way. Try a little-known fact, an interesting observation or quote.

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Sentences #2 – 4: Provide some background information on the topic in point form. What was happening at the time? What led up to the event you are going to be discussing? Why is this topic important?

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Sentence #5: Your **thesis (in simple or complex form)**. This sentence should follow logically from your previous sentences and reflect their content. Here you should make reference to the topic and include the main idea or points you will prove in the body of your composition. They should be combined into one sentence.

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**B. BODY PARAGRAPHS**

Each Body Paragraph must **begin** with a **premise (topic sentence)** that states one main reason your claim is true. Each Body Paragraph must contain **proofs (support with examples)** to defend your premise. (Point form is okay). Each Body Paragraph must **close** with a **concluding sentence** that shows that the premise has been proven.

**BODY PARAGRAPH # 1:**

Premise/topic sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proof (supporting point) # 1: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proof (supporting point) # 2: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proof (supporting point) # 3: \_\_\_\_\_

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Concluding sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

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**BODY PARAGRAPH # 2:**

Premise/topic sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proof (supporting point) # 1: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proof (supporting point) # 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Proof (supporting point) # 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Concluding sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**BODY PARAGRAPH # 3:**

Premise/topic sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Proof (supporting point) # 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Proof (supporting point) # 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Proof (supporting point) # 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Concluding sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C. CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH:**

Sentence #1: Re-state your **thesis**. Practice re-writing your **thesis** using different words (synonyms) to describe your 3 main points. Try placing your 3 points before the topic.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sentences #2-4: Paraphrase (don't repeat) your three **premises** to remind the reader the proof for your **claim**.

Paraphrase of topic sentence # 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase of topic sentence # 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase of topic sentence # 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Final sentence: The last sentence in your Concluding Paragraph should consider the implications of your claim. What happened or may happen as a result? Or you might answer the question, so what?

Ex. As a result of ..., \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

