

Synthesis Essay ROUGH DRAFT

Formal Writing Tips:

- NO "I" statements!! Avoid use of 1st person pronouns!
- Form a clear, complete and concise thesis statement
- Cite all evidence used and punctuate quotes correctly ("...")
- Analysis of evidence should show depth of knowledge, it should NOT repeat what the evidence already states!

I. Paragraph#1: **Introduction:**

A. Get the reader's attention by using a "hook." (Present the topic in general terms- ?, factual statement, quote)

B. Background information of the *topic* is necessary.

C. Thesis must clearly state *your position* and 2 *supportive arguments* that show why you have that position.

II. Paragraph #2: **Body Paragraph #1-** first argument that **supports** your position presented in the thesis:

A. Topic sentence explaining your first argument/claim.

B. Evidence from article that supports your topic sentence- direct quote or paraphrased information

(You MUST cite your source parenthetically OR →) According to _____, _____

C. Elaboration/analysis that explains how the evidence supports your first argument/claim

D. Evidence from article that supports your topic sentence- direct quote or paraphrased information

(You MUST cite your source parenthetically OR →) _____ states, _____

E. Elaboration/analysis that explains how the evidence supports your first argument/claim

F. Transition: Use transitional phrases to *introduce* your next argument/claim. (ex. *In addition, as well as, also*)

III. Paragraph #3: **Body Paragraph #2-** second argument that **supports** your position presented in thesis

A. Topic sentence explaining your second argument/claim.

B. Evidence from article that supports your topic sentence- direct quote or paraphrased information

(You MUST cite your source parenthetically OR →) According to _____, _____

C. Elaboration/analysis that explains how the evidence supports your second argument/claim

D. Evidence from article that supports your topic sentence- direct quote or paraphrased information

(You MUST cite your source parenthetically OR →) _____ states, _____

E. Elaboration/analysis that explains how the evidence supports your second argument/claim

F. Transition: Use transitional phrases to *introduce* your opposing views. (ex. *However, In contrast, Although*)

IV. Paragraph #4: **Body Paragraph #3: Opposing Views** (State an opposing view that challenges your position, then have a counter argument to it. Evidence can be used for the opposing view, rebuttal, or both)

A. Opposing point(s) to your argument.

B. Evidence and Elaboration to back up your opposing view

(You MUST cite your source parenthetically OR →) According to _____, _____

C. Your rebuttal/counter-argument to the opposing view; re-emphasize your position on the topic.

D. Evidence and Elaboration to back up your rebuttal

(You MUST cite your source parenthetically OR →) _____ states, _____

E. Transition: Use transitional phrases to *conclude* the paragraph (*ex. Nevertheless, Above all, Yet*)

V. Paragraph #5: **Conclusion:**

A. Restate thesis statement.

B. Final statement/Big Idea. Personal comment or a call to action.
