

English 7
Expository Essay Outline

- I. Introduction (4 sentences)
 - Title and author
 - Background information about the novel and prompt you have chosen (major characters and plot)
 - LAST SENTENCE=THESIS
 - **NOTE-Your thesis should provide the THREE main ideas of your paper/argument
- II. Body Paragraph # 1 (6-8 sentences)
 - a. TS (topic sentence) Introduce the **first** main idea of your paper/argument
 - b. CM (commentary) Explain in your own words further
 - c. CD (concrete detail=quote)
 - d. CM (commentary-opinion/explanation) Explain how this quote proves your **first** main idea
 - e. CM -further explain
 - f. CS (concluding sentence) Wrap up your argument and begin to transition to argument/main idea #2
- III. Body Paragraph #2 (6-8 sentences)
 - a. TS (topic sentence) Introduce the **second** main idea of your paper/argument
 - b. CM (commentary) Explain in your own words further
 - c. CD (concrete detail=quote)
 - d. CM (commentary-opinion/explanation) Explain how this quote proves your **second** main idea
 - e. CM -further explain
 - f. CS (concluding sentence) Wrap up your argument and begin to transition to argument/main idea #3
- IV. Body Paragraph #3 (6-8 sentences)
 - a. TS (topic sentence) Introduce the **third** main idea of your paper/argument
 - b. CM (commentary) Explain in your own words further
 - c. CD (concrete detail=quote)
 - d. CM (commentary-opinion/explanation) Explain how this quote proves your **third** main idea
 - e. CM -further explain
 - f. CS (concluding sentence) Wrap up your argument and begin to transition to conclusion
- V. Conclusion (4-6 sentences)
 - Topic sent-summarize the **entire paper**
 - CM #1 —1 summarizing B1
 - CM #2—1 sentence-summarizing B2
 - CM #3—1 sentence summarizing B3
 - wrap it up with an opinion WITHOUT USING “I”