



Sample Op-Ed Outline

I. Introduction

- a. Hook: Capture your reader's attention from the beginning! What can you start with that will compel your audience to pay attention? Perhaps an anecdote or a surprising fact?
- b. Context: Now back up a little bit. Explain what the issue is at hand. In a few lines, provide some background and context.
- c. Thesis: Finally, make an argument. Tell your reader where you stand on this issue.

II. First body paragraph

- a. Evidence #1: Describe the central piece of evidence that supports your position.
- b. Tie Back: Make sure to connect this evidence back to your main argument, explaining to readers how it supports your thesis statement.

III. Second Body Paragraph

- a. Evidence #2: Describe a second piece of evidence that supports your position. Try using a different type of persuasion (see list below).
- b. Tie Back: Again, make sure to connect this evidence back to your main argument, explaining to readers how it supports your thesis statement.

IV. Third Body Paragraph

- a. Counter Argument: Imagine you hold the opposing point of view—what would your main argument be?
- b. Rebuttal: What is your response to this argument? Why doesn't it apply to this situation/context?



V. Conclusion

- a. Summary: In just a few lines, remind your reader of the main argument and evidence.
- b. Thesis: No need to repeat your thesis word-for-word, but remind readers what you're arguing and why they should care!
- c. Personal Comment, Call to Action, or Question: The last few sentences of your essay will linger in your reader's mind? What do you want to leave them with?