

Core B | Research Essay Outline

Instructions

1. Type the outline in MLA 8th outline form:
 - ✓ 12 pt. Times New Roman font
 - ✓ 1" margins
 - ✓ Double-spaced
 - ✓ Proper header
 - ✓ Last name and page number in upper right corner
 2. Include the thesis, typed at the top of your page and underlined.
 3. Pay special attention to the alignment and quantity of your letters and numbers:
 - ✓ Roman numerals (representing topic sentences) start at 1" margin
 - ✓ Capital letters (A., B., etc.) are aligned under the first word after the Roman numeral
 - ✓ Numbers are aligned under the first word after your capital letter
 - ✓ If you have an A., you must have a B. If you have a 1., you must have a 2., etc.
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Student 1

Jane A Student

Mrs. Schmeichel

Core B Comp & Lit

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Title of Assignment

Thesis: Type out your thesis statement and underline it.

I. First Body Paragraph Topic Sentence that connects directly to thesis and is arguable

A. 1st Assertion in sentence format

1. Evidence (quote) - Quote does not need to be integrated in outline but proper in-text citation required

2. Commentary/Explanation Sentence (What does this quote show or prove?)

3. Transition sentence

B. 2nd Assertion in sentence format

1. Evidence (quote)

2. Commentary/Explanation Sentence (What does this quote show or prove?)

C. Concluding Sentence that transitions to next paragraph

Continue to follow the same format for all body paragraphs.

Sample Outline

Thesis: Although the historical record about Shakespeare's actual life remains insufficient to know much about him personally, the available evidence of his authorship for the plays and poems attributed to him proves his rightful place as the one and only Bard of Stratford.

- I. Few records exist to account for Shakespeare's early life, but historians have gathered many facts that seem reasonable considering the period.
 - A. While schools rarely kept records of students during this time, given the family status of William Shakespeare's father, he likely attended grammar school near his family's village.
 1. "Shakespeare, as the son of a leading Stratford citizen, almost certainly attended Stratford's grammar school. Like all such schools, its curriculum consisted of an intense emphasis on the Latin classics, including memorization, writing, and acting classic Latin plays" ("Shakespeare's Life").
 2. This education would become extremely important to him as he began his writing career since he set many of his plays in classical times or around ancient themes.
 - B. Although early records do not exist, scholars do know that he married in 1582 and began his family.
 1. "In early 1585, the couple had twins, Judith and Hamnet, completing the family. In the years ahead, Anne and the children lived in Stratford while Shakespeare worked in London" ("Shakespeare's Life").
 2. Marriage certificates, birth and death records all offer a clear picture of Shakespeare's early family life, confirming with certainty that he lived during this period and would soon have a flourishing career in London.
 - C. While historians cannot pinpoint every detail of the author's life, enough evidence remains from this period to confirm both his existence and his active writing career.
- II. Scholars have discovered an overwhelming amount of evidence pointing to Shakespeare as author, much more than that available concerning other playwrights of his day.