

2.9 Comparison Essay PLAN Option #2

Essential Question

Write **which one of the two** essential questions you have chosen in the space below.

Thesis Statement

Write a one- to two-sentence thesis statement for your essay. It should be a sentence that answers the essential question and takes a clear position on the question. Include a “because” or “but” statement.

Topic Sentence—Body Paragraph #1

Write one sentence that summarizes this paragraph about a character who demonstrates the essential question in a **positive** way.

Topic Sentence—Body Paragraph #2

Write one sentence that summarizes this paragraph about a character who demonstrates the essential question in a **negative** way.

Topic Sentence—Body Paragraph #3

Write one sentence that summarizes this paragraph about the **outcomes** of each character’s life in light of their positive or negative demonstrations of the essential question. Keep this general. You will go into detail later in the paragraph.

INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH

This paragraph must grab the reader's attention and show the reader a preview of what's to come. Your thesis should appear here as well.

Hook:

For your hook, use a quotation, an anecdote (a very short story), a provocative question, a series of strong statements, a statistic, or anything to catch your readers' interest in the topic.

Background Information:

Prepare your audience for the body paragraphs by mentioning any stories that you'll be discussing in the body (whether these are true stories, hypothetical stories, personal stories, stories from the media, etc.). Don't give much detail here. When you write your introductory paragraph, tie your reference to the story, the hook, and the thesis together smoothly.

Thesis Statement:

BODY PARAGRAPH ONE

The job of the body paragraphs is to prove your thesis with concrete details. Decide which examples from the text you will use in each paragraph to prove your thesis.

Topic Sentence #1 (character who is a positive example of essential question):

Supporting Example(s) from the Text:

Provide evidence from the novel or short story to support your topic sentence. Briefly describe each example or include the quotation here, along with a page number.

Supporting Explanation:

Explain how your evidence above supports the idea expressed in your topic sentence.

BODY PARAGRAPH TWO

Topic Sentence #2 (character who is a negative example of essential question):

Supporting Example(s) as Evidence:

Supporting Explanation:

BODY PARAGRAPH THREE

Topic Sentence #3 (outcome of each character's life based on his or her response to essential question):

Supporting Example(s) as Evidence:

Supporting Explanation:

CONCLUSION

The goal of this final paragraph is to leave the reader thinking about your essay long after he or she has put it down. Think of it as a lawyer's closing argument—it must remind the jury of the strong evidence in a powerful and interesting way.

Restate the Thesis in New Words:

Essay Wrap-Up:

Include either a **So-What Statement**, a **Summary of Key Ideas**, and/or a **Call to Action**. Describe in detail what you plan to do.

Clincher:

This is where you persuade your audience that your opinion has value. Say something creative or powerful (like in your hook) to emphasize your message. You might even refer to the hook you used in the introduction.