

Framework for Position Paper

The Outsider's

Introduction (Paragraph 1)

1. **Hook.** Capture the reader's attention. This can be done by posing a question, stating a relevant quote, making a strong statement, or using a statistic.
2. **State your thesis** (the topic and your opinion on it from your chosen perspective).
3. **Introduce the main points to be discussed.**
4. **Transition sentence** (This will transition your intro paragraph to your next body paragraph, e.g. Use transitional words like However/yet/conversely/nevertheless/While. This will let us know we are moving from the intro and the greater theme to your first supporting argument)

Body Paragraphs (Paragraph 2 – 7)

1. **Topic sentence** (Your topic sentence introduces your position on your question. E.g Paragraph 2 would be your position Question #1, Paragraph 3 for Question #2 and so forth, all the way for questions #1-6)
2. **Followed by quote/supporting evidence** (Quote that supports your position)
3. **Explanation of quote and scene for context** (What is happening in this quote and scene and why is it relevant to your question/topic)
4. **Analysis of quote** (this is where you are looking for “deep” analysis See: Rubric)

Repeat #2 – 4

****SEE BELOW FOR MODEL PARAGRAPH****

Conclusion

- Restate your thesis.
- Sum up the main points made in the body of your essay.
- End with a strong statement.

MODEL BODY PARAGRAPH SAMPLE:

e.g. Your paragraph one of this topic might begin as follows....

Q: “Do the socs or greasers have it worse?”

PARAGRAPH 1:

[TOPIC SENTENCE]

Socs and greasers are at odds, but their treatment is not equal.

In fact, we see time and again that greasers are treated much more despairingly and have it much worse. **[FIRST SUPPORTING IDEA]** Firstly, they suffer from poverty which the socs have no real concept above and adds to their harsher reality. **[QUOTE THAT SUPPORTS WITH LEAD IN]** Early in the book Ponyboy tells the reader, "It bothered me because we live in a kind of lousy neighborhood and our house isn't real great. It's rundown looking and everything, and the inside's kind of poor looking" (Hinton 163). **[EXPLANATION OF QUOTE]** From the start, we see Ponyboy's insecurity about his impoverished living conditions. **[ANALYSIS OF QUOTE]** It not only causes him financial difficulties, but emotional strain as well, something the soc's don't have to deal with..... CONTINUED...

~1 Quote done.