

## Persuasive Essay Outline Format Example

1) Hook: *(This essay did not have a hook. However, if I were to create one this is how it might look: No one WOULD ever want to hear these words, "We the jury, find the defendant guilty." Imagine, THOUGH, if you also heard that you were sentenced to die.)*

### 2) TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME -Main

Argument: Capital punishment should be stopped.

i) 1st supporting argument (2nd strongest reason): because it is morally wrong.

ii) 2nd supporting argument (least strongest reason): expensive.

iii) 3rd supporting argument (strongest reason): and such a slow process.

### 3) TELL ME - 1st supporting argument (2nd strongest reason): because it is morally wrong

i) #1 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): we are following the criminals' example by doing something equally as bad ourselves

ii) #2 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): taking one life for another life

iii) #3 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): a chance that a mistake will be made

### 4) 2nd supporting argument (least strongest reason): expensive

i) #1 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): States with the death penalty use taxes to pay these expenses.

ii) #2 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): Over the past 13 years, Florida has spent \$57 million to carry out 18 executions.

iii) #3 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): If you divide this dollar amount by the number of executions, you come up with a cost of \$3.2 million for each execution.

### 5) 3rd supporting argument (strongest reason): such a slow process

i) #1 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): 97% of all death-row prisoners are not executed on time.

ii) #2 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): If the U.S. legal system executed one inmate every day, it would still take 30 years to empty all of the cells on death row.

iii) #3 proof (facts, examples, quotes, stories): (This essay did not have a 3rd form of proof. However, if I were to create one this is how it might look.)

6) Opposing Viewpoint: (This essay did not have an opposing viewpoint. However, if I were to create one this is how it might look: Convicts on death row deserve to die BECAUSE of the horrendous crimes that they have committed.

i) **Challenge:** (This essay did not have a challenge. However, if I were to create one this is how it might look: a convict's crime may be horrendous, BUT it is OUR responsibility to try and rehabilitate them instead of killing them.)

7) **TELL ME WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME - Main Argument:**

Capital punishment should be dropped from our legal system.

i) 1st supporting argument (2nd strongest reason): morally wrong

ii) 2nd supporting argument (least strongest reason): expensive

iii) 3rd supporting argument (strongest reason): slow process