

Your first and last name

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American Literature

1 December 2023

Essay Outline Example

I. First Paragraph – Introduction

Why I loved the book so much and what made it great

A. Opening statement – attention getter

B. Supporting sentences

1. The title is perfect
2. The story is emotional
3. The character Arch is beautiful

C. Thesis statement – should include your three main points

The Old Man and the Sea is a great book, for three main reasons: The title is perfect, the moods and emotions the reader experiences are nothing short of spectacular, and the character growth and changes the old man experiences are beautiful

II. First Body Paragraph - First Main Point

A. Topic sentence

The title is the perfect title for the book

B. At least two supporting ideas and one quote

1. Almost all spend at sea
2. Simplicity is best for the story
3. "I am a tired old man, but I have killed this fish which is my brother and now I must do the slave work?" (95)

C. Concluding sentence

The seemingly simple title helps show an arch and set the story

III. Second Body Paragraph - Second Main Point (Use a good transition from previous paragraph to this one.)

A. Topic sentence

The mood and emotions are bitter sweet and beautiful

B. At least two supporting ideas and one quote

1. the fighting with fish and sharks
2. the closure of the ending
3. "The old man was dreaming about the lions." (127)

C. Concluding sentence

The story is an emotional work of art

Each body paragraph must have 1 quote from the book in it. Also remember, if you have an A, you must have a B, etc.; if you have a 1, you must have a 2, etc.