

Name: _

Opinion Essay Toolkit

Use the words, phrases, and ideas below to help you write a powerful opinion essay!

1. INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH

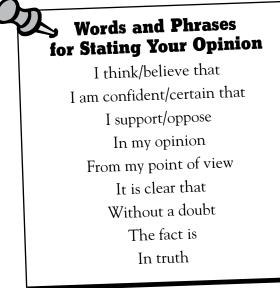
Writing Your Hook

The beginning of your essay is called the hook because it "hooks" your readers' attention. Here are some ideas for writing a great hook:

- **Question:** Ask your readers a question that leads them to take your side on the issue. **Example:** *What would a school birthday party be without cupcakes?*
- **Quotation:** Start with a powerful quote from a well-known person. (Don't forget to mention the source!) **Example:** Albert Einstein once said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge."
- **Short experience:** Start with a few sentences describing something that happened to you or someone else, to show your main point.

Example: Twelve-year-old Sarah Patel was texting her sister while walking to school one morning. All of a sudden—SMACK. She slammed right into a brick wall.

- **Surprising Fact:** Catch your readers' attention with a piece of information they aren't likely to know. **Example:** American elementary school students produce 1.2 billion pounds of lunch trash every year.
- **Vivid Scene:** Use descriptive details to drop your readers into a scene to make your point. **Example:** The sky is dazzlingly blue. A warm breeze carries the scent of wildflowers. Something floats up lazily from behind the trees—a bird? A butterfly? No: a plastic bag.





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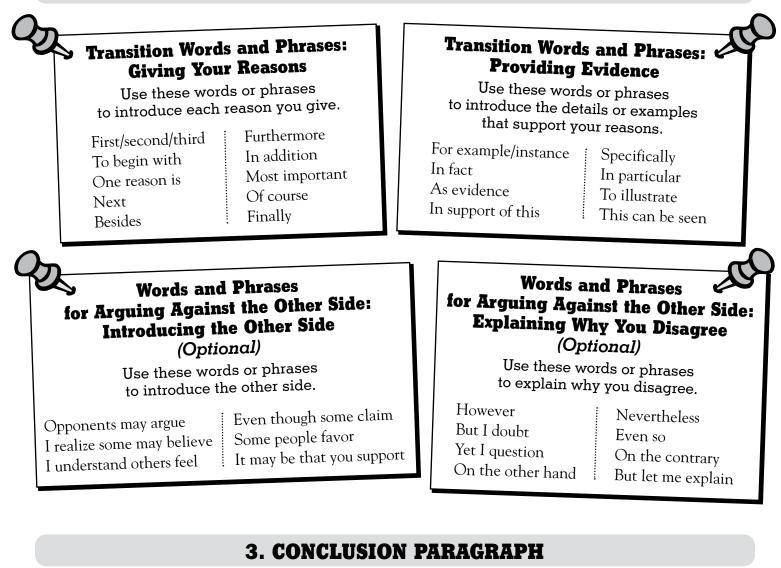
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2. BODY PARAGRAPH(S): REASONS AND EVIDENCE



Words and Phrases for the Conclusion Paragraph

Use these words and phrases for your conclusion.

For all these reasons As you can see As I have noted On the whole In short In conclusion To sum it up As I have said To summarize You can see why Therefore The time has come to

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