

5 Paragraph Compare and Contrast Essay Outline

A. Introduction

- a. Introduction to the broad topic
- b. Specific topic
- c. Thesis statement

B. Body Paragraphs

- a. Body paragraph #1—First aspect that's similar or different
 - i. Subject #1
 1. Detail #1
 2. Detail #2
 - ii. Subject #2
 1. Detail #1
 2. Detail #2
- b. Body paragraph #2—Second aspect that's similar or different
 - i. Subject #1
 1. Detail #1
 2. Detail #2
 - ii. Subject #2
 1. Detail #1
 2. Detail #2
- c. Body paragraph #3—Third aspect that's similar or different
 - i. Subject #1
 1. Detail #1
 2. Detail #2
 - ii. Subject #2
 1. Detail #1
 2. Detail #2

C. Conclusion

- a. Summary of main points—Restate thesis while synthesizing information from body paragraphs
- b. Evaluate the similarities/differences and discuss any future implications (if applicable)
- c. Significance—what's the point you're making?