

Essay Outline

Introduction

Explain how Europe benefited from [cultural diffusion](#) during the period c. A.D. 1000 - 1500.

- Tells the reader the main idea of the composition and suggests its type and purpose.

1. The “Grabber” Sentence

This is the first sentence in your introduction which "grabs" the reader's attention, It makes the reader interested in your essay and makes them want to read more.

The "Grabber" should be about a sentence long which introduces your topic with an interesting fact, statistic, quote, etc. You want your reader to be interested!

It is often easier to do the “Grabber” ***AFTER*** the **CONCLUSION**. In other words, do it last.

“Grabber” Sentence: (Please do not write in the gray areas.)

2. The Thesis Sentence

Before you begin writing, decide on your answer to the question asked of you. This is your basic thesis.

Serves as the topic sentence for both the introductory paragraph and the whole essay.

Thesis Sentence: (Please do not write in the gray areas.)

Four horizontal gray bars provided for writing the thesis sentence.

3. “Key Defense” Sentence

Decide on what three pieces of evidence/support you will use to prove your thesis.

Place your three pieces of evidence in order of strength (least to most).

Evidence:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Each piece of evidence you are going to discuss in the body should be mentioned in your key defense sentence. Each will get its own paragraph in the body.

Assign # _____ Name _____ Due Date _____ Pts _____

DO NOT use specific items.

For example: Do not use “watermelon” here. Instead write about foods and use watermelon as evidence to support this topic in the body of the essay.

This will be the transition sentence into the **BODY** of the essay.

“Key Defense” Sentence: (Please do not write in the gray areas.)



Body

Explain how Europe benefited from cultural diffusion during the period
c. A.D. 1000 - 1500.

- Develops the main ideas stated in the introduction.
- Persuasive/Explanatory Composition: body contains facts, reasons, and examples that support the main idea.
- Paragraphs should follow in a logical order, based on weakest to strongest.
- Includes 3 supporting paragraphs.

1. First Body Paragraph

Each paragraph needs **at least FOUR** sentences!

Based on the first piece of evidence outlined in the introduction, state a topic sentence for the First Body Paragraph to support the thesis sentence.

Topic Sentence:

List important pieces of factual information that support the topic sentence of the First Body Paragraph. These are used to develop your supporting sentences.

Factual Information: (Do not copy this section into your final draft.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Using the factual information, write at least ***THREE*** sentences supporting the topic of the First Body Paragraph.

First Supporting Sentence:

Second Supporting Sentence:

Third Supporting Sentence: (if needed)

End your **FIRST** paragraph with a concluding/transitional sentence that leads to paragraph number two.

Transitions create a thread between paragraphs, so your reader isn't lost or jarred when moving from one idea/paragraph to the next. A transition is simply a sentence, or part of a sentence, that connects the material in one paragraph to that in the next. This creates a smooth read and makes your material seem to make more sense.

The transition may be part of the concluding sentence of one paragraph, or it may be part of the introductory sentence of the next paragraph. You could even have a transition that is partly in one paragraph's conclusion and partly in the next paragraph's introduction.

Here is an example of a concluding/transition sentence:

"By practicing better methods of personal hygiene, Europeans were not so reliant on primitive medical treatments."

Notice how the first part of the sentence sums up the topic (better hygiene), while the second part of the sentence ties the paragraph's topic into the topic of the next paragraph (better medical care).

Concluding/Transition Sentence:

Follow the previous steps to complete the second and third body paragraphs.

2. Second Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

Factual Information: (Do not copy this section into your final draft.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Assign # _____ Name _____ Due Date _____ Pts _____

First Supporting Sentence:

Second Supporting Sentence:

Assign # _____ Name _____ Due Date _____ Pts _____

Third Supporting Sentence: (if needed)

Concluding/Transition Sentence:

Follow the previous steps to complete the second and third body paragraphs.

3. Third Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

Factual Information: (Do not copy this section into your final draft.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Assign # _____ Name _____ Due Date _____ Pts _____

First Supporting Sentence:

Second Supporting Sentence:

Assign # _____ Name _____ Due Date _____ Pts _____

Third Supporting Sentence: (if needed)

Concluding/Transition Sentence:

Conclusion

Explain how Europe benefited from [cultural diffusion](#) during the period
c. A.D. 1000 - 1500.

- Develops the main ideas stated in the introduction.
- New information should not be introduced in the conclusion.

1. Restatement of Thesis

Summarize the main idea by returning the reader to your original thesis statement, but do not simply state it all over again!

Restatement of Thesis Sentence:

2. Restatement of Evidence

Review your main points of evidence in answering the question and leave the reader with a final thought.

Be sure your evidence **ANSWERS the QUESTION!**

Restatement of Evidence Sentence:

3. The “Clincher” Sentence

The Clincher should do one of the following

Evaluate the ideas your essay presents.

Persuade the reader to accept an idea or viewpoint by making a final convincing statement.

Look forward by showing your reader that your subject will continue to be important in the future for a certain reason.

Whatever you put in the final sentence of your essay, make sure it will somehow remind the reader of what they have just read.

You may choose to end quietly, perhaps with some simple statement of fact that sums everything up; or you may choose to end boldly, with an extravagant quote or a loud proclamation of opinion.

Remember that in writing, last things have power--choose your final words carefully and give your reader something to think about.

Clincher Sentence:
