

# Persuasive Essay Planning

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Introduction

A. Hook / anecdote

B. Thesis / Opinion Statement:

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C. Three ideas that support the opinion statement

*(searching the topic on the internet may help with ideas.)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Paragraph # 2

Reason #1 to support your thesis/ opinion statement.

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Search the internet for articles to support your thesis.  
(use the "Citing Sources" handout)

Quote/s:

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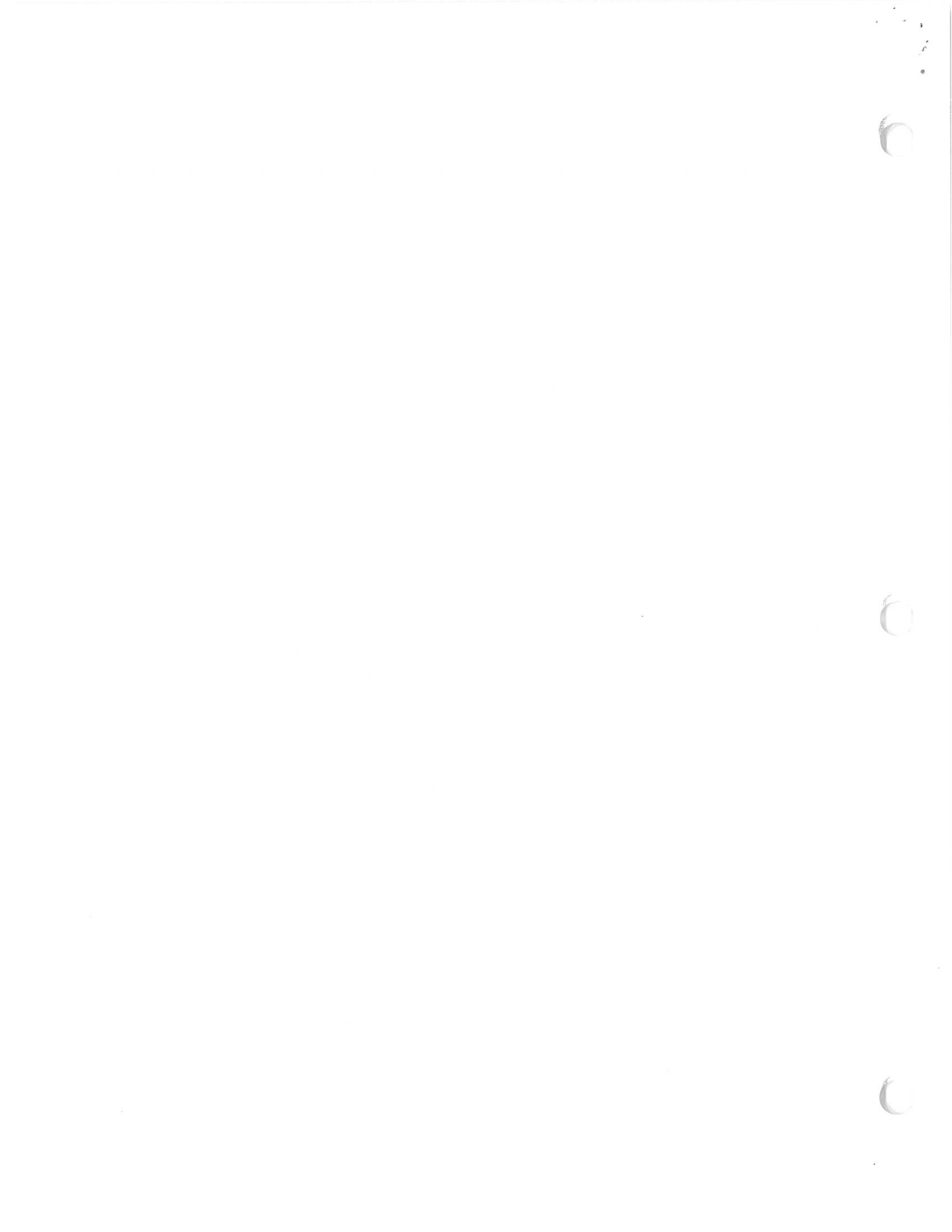
(Cite article source here. You will place it at the end of the quote in your essay.)

Your own words to support your reason #1

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**III. Paragraph # 3**

Reason #2 to support your thesis/ opinion statement.

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**Search the internet for articles to support your thesis.**  
(use the "Citing Sources" handout)

Quote/s:

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(Cite article source here. You will place it at the end of the quote in your essay.)

Your own words to support your reason #2

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**IV. Paragraph # 4**

Reason #3 to support your thesis/ opinion statement.

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**Search the internet for articles to support your thesis.**  
(use the "Citing Sources" handout)

Quote/s:

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(Cite article source here. You will place it at the end of the quote in your essay.)



Your own words to support your reason #3

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V.

Counter-arguments: (peer sharing)

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Choose two counter-arguments and think about possible responses you can give to refute them.

Counter-argument #1

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Reason why it is not a valid argument:

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Counter-argument #2

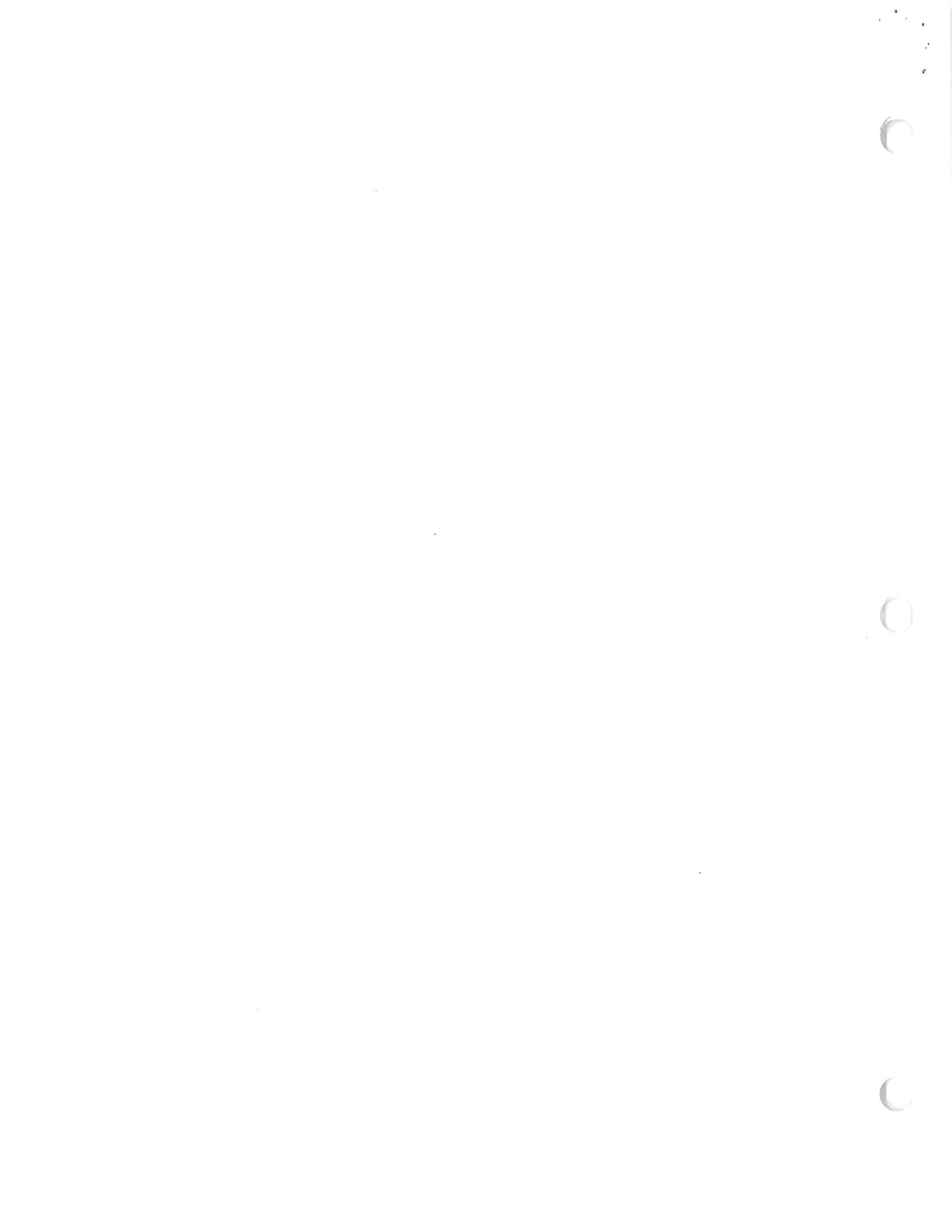
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Reason why it is not a valid argument:

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**Now, pick the one counterargument you think is the best to include in your essay.  
ONLY INCLUDE ONE COUNTER ARGUMENT in paragraph # 5**



## VI. Conclusion

Restate your thesis statement and supporting reasons in slightly different words than paragraph #.

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# Modern Language Association (MLA) - First Page Format

Your last name and page # go on every page, like this:

Smith 1

1 inch

Samantha Smith

Make your heading look like this:

Mr. Thomas Teacher

Sophomore English

26 June 2016

No bold, italics, or underlining of the title

Notice that the title is original and interesting. Avoid titles such as "Final Draft" or "Research Essay." You can do better than just slapping a label on your essay. Instead, work to make a good first impression.

## Navigating the Academic Labyrinth

Your teacher has assigned you to use the Modern Language Association (MLA) format when submitting a paper, but you're not exactly sure what this means. No worries. Just use this page as a model of how your paper should look. The entire paper is written in 12-point Times New Roman font. You'll want to pick a standard, easy-to-read font, like this one, and stick with the 12-pt. size. Also, notice that the entire paper is double-spaced, including the heading, which includes your name, your teacher's name, the course name, and the date you submitted the paper. At the top of the essay, the title isn't bold, italicized, or underlined. It is just centered and important words are capitalized.

1 inch

All of the margins are exactly one inch from the edge of the paper to the beginning of your typing. Don't try to fudge this by widening or shrinking your margins. Your essay should be left justified, meaning the lines of type are aligned on the left side of this page but remain jagged on the right side. Look at the upper right-hand corner and you'll see that the MLA format also requires your last name and the page number to be placed on the top right corner of every page of your essay. This is called a header. If you've never made one of these before, just go to YouTube and search the name of your word processing software along with "MLA formatting." Proper academic paper formatting is easy to create once you know the rules.

1 inch

### More Notes:

No separate cover page needed.

The Works Cited page is a separate sheet placed after the last page of your essay.

1 inch

# Modern Language Association (MLA) - Works Cited Page

Alphabetize the entries

Center and capitalize  
Works Cited

Your last name and page # go on every page, like this:

Smith 8

Berger, Andy. "All in His Head." *Discover Magazine*, vol. 37, no. 5, Kalmach Publishing.

June 2016, pp. 26-31.

Bieber, Justin. *First Step 2 Forever: My Story*. HarperCollins, 2010, p. 71.

"Formatting a Research Paper." MLA Style Center, Modern Language Association of America, [style.mla.org/formatting-papers/](http://style.mla.org/formatting-papers/).

Kardashian, Kim, et al. *Kardashian Confidential*. St. Martin's P, 2010, p. 59.

King, Stephen. *Chester*. Scribner, 2000, p. 73.

*MLA Handbook*, 8th ed. Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

Watkins, Randy. "Is Google Making Us Dumber?" *Distance Learning*, Information Age

Publishing, December 2015. *Student Resources in Context*, Gale Group,

[ic.galegroup.com/ic/suic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search\\_within\\_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711](http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/suic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search_within_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711)

[dow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search\\_within\\_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711](http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/suic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search_within_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711)

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[80&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search\\_within\\_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711](http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/suic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search_within_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711)

[&search\\_within\\_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711](http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/suic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search_within_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711)

[umentId=GALEIA437059711.](http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/suic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=SUIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&u=plea12880&currentPage=&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&source=Topic&search_within_results=&p=SUIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALEIA437059711)

Works Cited page is a separate sheet placed after the last page of your essay.

Include full urls to assist the reader in locating the online source.

Double-space the entire page.

Use a standard font style such as Times New Roman 12 pt. for formal essays.

1 inch

## INTERNAL CITATION

The key to internal citation is to use the least amount of information necessary to clearly identify the source of the fact you are sharing.

1. Whenever possible, give the author's name and page number of the reference (with no punctuation marks in between) at the end of the sentence being documented, **but before the period at the end of the sentence.**

EXAMPLE – Twenty-five percent of the nuclear power plants had structural defects (Smith 48).

2. If your source has no author, such as in a newspaper or magazine article, use the "title" of the article and the page number. If the title is long, use the first few words and...followed by the page number.

EXAMPLE – Twenty-five percent of the nuclear power plants had structural defects ("Chernobyl – Can it..." 28).

3. When you are using an internal citation for a direct quotation, put the reference **after** the final quotation marks but before the period at the end of the sentence. In this situation, the final period at the end of the sentence will come **after** the quotation marks.

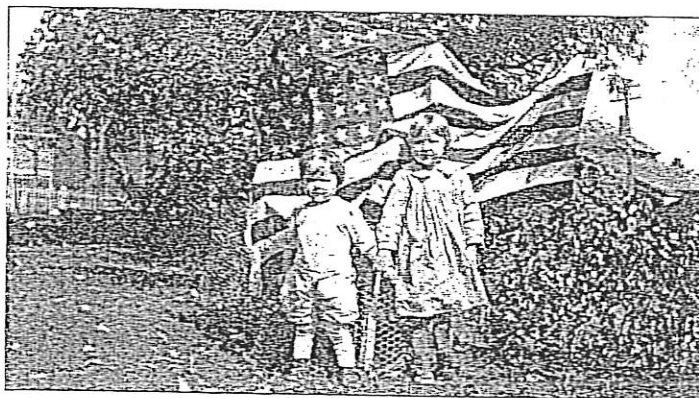
EXAMPLE – "Twenty-five percent of the nuclear power plants had structural defects" (Smith 48).

4. When you are using a website that does not have an author or title, use the portion of the address up to the .com, .org, .gov etc. as your citation.

EXAMPLE – Twenty-five percent of the nuclear power plants had structural defects (www.nuclearpower.com).

5. When you are using a graphic such as a picture, a chart, a table or a drawing, put the reference on the page underneath the graphic. Use the author's last name and the page number. Be sure the reference appears on your works cited page.

EXAMPLE -



Two Young Girls from Rexford, 1910  
(Scherer 6)

## CITING SOURCES

Use  
EasyBib  
free Bibliography Generator

This page provides examples of source citations for different types of sources. Please make sure that when you create your "works cited" page, you alphabetize your sources and indent every line after the first one for each source (see examples). The first line only should be flush with the margin. Single space **within** each citation but double space **between** citations. Be careful to punctuate each citation correctly and make sure you write the authors' last names first. Please note that if a source does not have an author, you will begin your citation with the title. Do not write "no one." See the next page for a sample "works cited" page.

### BOOKS

*Author (Last Name, First). Title. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.*

*Example:*

Clark, Kenneth. This is a Masterpiece. New York: Lerner, 1993.

### ENCYCLOPEDIAS

*"Title of Article." Name of Encyclopedia. Year of Edition.*

*Example:*

"Graham, Martha." World Book Encyclopedia. 2000 ed.

### ONLINE ENCYCLOPEDIA

*"Title of Article." Title of reference work. Year of Edition. <Web Address>. (Date of Online Visit).*

*Example:*

"King, Martin Luther." Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia Online. 2004 ed.  
<<http://auth.grolier.com>>. (5 May 2004).

### A PERSONAL INTERVIEW

*Person's Name (Last, First). Personal Interview. Day Month Year.*

*Example:*

Smith, John. Personal Interview. 3 Mar. 2002.

### WORLD WIDE WEB SITES (WWW)

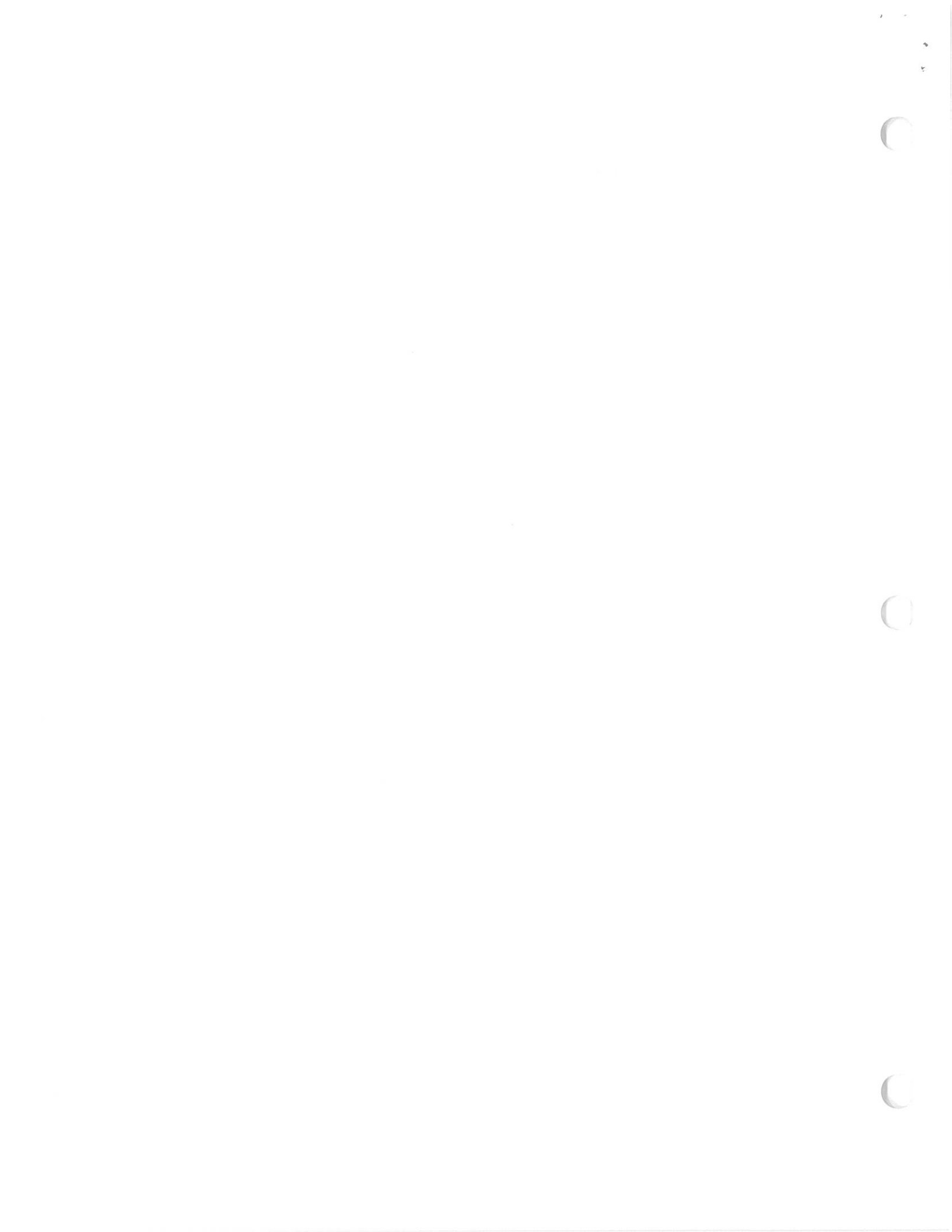
*"Title of Article." Name of Website. Date of Publication. <internet address>. (Date of Access).*

*Example:*

"A Hypertext History of Multi-User Dimensions." Computer History.  
5 Dec. 2002 <<http://www.ccs.neu.edu>>. (4 May 2004).

Typed Persuasive Essay Rubric

Objective	0 points Did not attempt	1 point Made <u>some</u> attempt	2 points Made a <u>good</u> attempt	3 points Demonstrated <u>mastery</u>
1. Began with an attention catcher. (hook)				
2. Stated a position and kept it. (thesis statement)				
3. Previewed three arguments in the first paragraph.				
4. Developed one argument in the first <b>body</b> paragraph.				
5. Elaborated and explained the argument with evidence-- noting sources.				
6. Developed one argument in the second body paragraph.				
7. Elaborated and explained the argument with evidence – noting sources.				
8. Developed and explained the argument in the third body paragraph.				
9. Elaborated and explained the argument with evidence – noting sources.				
10. Included a counterargument paragraph with evidence/facts.				
11. Reviewed your arguments in the conclusion.				
12. Ended with a clinching statement.				
13. Has an interesting title.				
14. Uses proper spelling, punctuation, and grammar.				
15. Used Times New Roman size 12 font.				
16. Double spaced the essay and title.				
17. Used proper heading in the top left corner of the document. Name Teacher English 6 Date (day month year)				
18. Works Cited Page (6 points for mastery)				
19. All pages properly numbered				



Persuasive Essay Final Peer Review (NO Wikipedia as a source)

I. Introduction

Hook / anecdote: (circle one) Yes No

Thesis / Opinion Statement is clear: (circle one) Yes No

Highlight the thesis/opinion statement

Contains a sentence listing THREE reasons to support thesis statement: Yes No

Circle the sentence with the three reasons that will be discussed in the essay.

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II. Paragraph 1 (Body)

Reason #1: There is a topic sentence that states "Reason One" from first paragraph.  
Yes No

The writer explains in his/her own words and then includes a quote or paraphrase  
Yes No

The writer has used footnotes with numbers Yes No

There is a number at the bottom of the page with the source Yes No  
(no Wikipedia)

---

Paragraph 2 (Body)

Reason #2: There is a topic sentence that states "Reason Two" from first paragraph.

Yes No

The writer explains in his/her own words and then includes a quote or paraphrase  
Yes No

The writer has used footnotes with numbers Yes No

There is a number at the bottom of the page with the source Yes No  
(no Wikipedia)

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Paragraph 3 (Body)

Reason #3: There is a topic sentence that states "Reason Three" from first paragraph.

Yes No

The writer explains in his/her own words and then includes a quote or paraphrase  
Yes No

The writer has used footnotes with numbers Yes No

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Paragraph 4 (Body)      Counterargument:

The writer includes one counterargument and explains why it has no value.

Yes                      No

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III. Conclusion: Restatement of opinion and a feeling of closure. Does NOT introduce new idea.  
Yes                      No

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Contains a Work Cited Page                      Yes                      No

Contains Wikipedia                                      Yes                      No

If there is a work cited page, did the writer list the sources in alphabetical order?

Did the writer use proper MLA format? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, what was incorrect?