

Night and (Mice) Argumentative Essay Formula

An Academic Essay Examining a Specific Theme Related to Events in The Memoir.

Directions: **Combine this formula with** the Argumentative Sentence by Sentence Formula to create your essay.

Introduction Paragraph:

- 1) A general statement to open the discussion of the general theme area (one of the 10 theme choices) combined with a statement that narrows the general theme toward a specific sub-theme (e.g., loneliness comes in many forms – which one are you arguing).
- 2) Background information regarding WWII, the Holocaust, and *Night* answering the - who, what, when, where in two sentences (show your reader you understand the subject).
- 3) Introduce the memoir's title and author and tie the focus of your essay as it relates to a specific character in the memoir. This sentence may include background information to better help the reader understand where you are coming from in relation to the memoir.
- 4) Your claim statement makes the assertion your sub-theme focus is an important theme to be argued; it is specific, and everything in the essay should tie back to this statement.

Body Paragraph 1 and 2:

Each body paragraph focuses on one main point.

- 1) A sentence that leads into the paragraph main idea - this is a general statement about your **main point** (physical disabilities often isolate people).
- 2) A statement that gives background information from the memoir about your main point (among several characters in the memoir, Candy's physical disability isolates him).
- 3) **A statement that "sets up"** your example from memoir to prove your point (when Candy latches on to George and Lennie's dream, he indicates his isolation at the ranch).
- 4) "Source material quote" with attribution to source.
- 5) **Elaboration that answers what the evidence means, why the evidence is important, and giving an additional example from the memoir to reinforce your evidence.**
- 6) Connect main point to precise claim.

Opposing Claim Paragraph:

You provide an opposing claim argument and rebuttal.

- 1) Build the opposing claim paragraph in the same manner as the body paragraphs, but with rebuttal in several sentences.

Conclusion Paragraph:

This paragraph brings your "argument to a conclusion."

- 1) A statement reaffirming your claim points and claim.
- 2) A discussion of the importance of each of the points and how they build to prove your claim.