CAÑADA COLLEGE WRITING CENTER ESSAY PLANNING WORKSHEET

**INTRODUCTION : THESIS STATEMENT**: *A single statement that explains the main purpose and approach of your essay.* **Tip***: Remember that you can always make adjustments to your thesis once your paper has been written.*

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**Main Ideas***: What are you writing your paper about? Introduce three main ideas that you will write about in the rest of your paper along with one sentence for each.*

**MAIN IDEA 1:**

**MAIN IDEA 2:**

**MAIN IDEA 3:**

**BODY PARAGRAPH 1: MAIN POINT #1**: *This paragraph addresses the first* ***MAIN IDEA*** *listed in your thesis statement.*

**TOPIC SENTENCE**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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*List some ideas that you will address in this paragraph and provide support/evidence for each one. Depending on the type of essay you are writing, these can be quotes, research, data, counter arguments, etc. This will become the content of your body paragraph. It can be helpful to write your topic sentence after you write out these ideas.*

**POINT 1: SUPPORT 1:**

**POINT 2: SUPPORT 2:**

**POINT 3: SUPPORT 3:**

**BODY PARAGRAPH 2: MAIN POINT #2:** *This paragraph addresses the second* ***MAIN IDEA*** *listed in your thesis statement.*

**TOPIC SENTENCE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**POINT 1: SUPPORT 1:**

**POINT 2: SUPPORT 2:**

**POINT 3: SUPPORT 3:**

**BODY PARAGRAPH 3: MAIN POINT #3**: *This paragraph addresses the third* ***MAIN IDEA*** *listed in your thesis statement*.

**TOPIC SENTENCE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**POINT 1: SUPPORT 1:**

**POINT 2: SUPPORT 2:**

**POINT 3: SUPPORT 3:**

**CONCLUSION***: The final paragraph summarizes the essay, using words similar to your introduction*. *Tell us why your main ideas/topics/arguments are important. This paragraph should respond to your thesis and make connections between your main ideas.*

*Restate the* ***MAIN IDEAS*** *from your thesis in a new and original way, using similar language.*

**MAIN IDEA 1 (RESTATED):**

**MAIN IDEA 2 (RESTATED):**

**MAIN IDEA 3 (RESTATED):**

*In your concluding statement, think about why everything you just wrote is important. Use forward thinking, “big picture” statements. This is the last thing you leave your reader with: own it!* **Tip*:*** *It can be helpful to return to your introduction and thesis once you write your conclusion.*

**CONCLUDING STATEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**NOTES/ RESEARCH/ CITATIONS/ RESOURCES:**