

Outlining in Reverse: *Pigman* Essays

Using your color-coded *Pigman* essay that was returned to you, fill out this outline. Remember: The question you are to answer is this: “Should the *Pigman* be taught in schools?” Your task is to convince your readers that your opinion is correct. If your essay does not include some of the following elements, include them to here to illustrate that you do, in fact, understand this format for standard academic essays.

Introductory Paragraph

Attention Getter: What was yours? Copy it here. If you didn’t have one, write one now.

Background information: What did you tell the reader about the book so that s/he would understand why you are writing the essay and the circumstances you will discuss? If you did not include background information, write some now.

What are the three main points you will develop in the body of the essay? Write each as a complete sentence:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Circle the thesis statement that represents your opinion:

The *Pigman* should be taught in schools. The *Pigman* should not be taught in schools.

Reflection Questions: Did the introductory paragraph of your essay include all of these elements? Did you clearly answer the question with a simple thesis statement?

Body Paragraph #1

Complete the topic sentence with your first main point. (It should read as a clear, complete sentence).

The first reason *The Pigman* should/should not be taught in schools is _____
(circle one)

List the *specific* examples from the story that you used to prove this point. There should be more than one, and they should refer to *specific* events in the story:

What was your transition sentence? If you didn’t have one, write one now.

Body Paragraph #2

Complete the topic sentence with your first main point. (It should read as a clear, complete sentence).

The second reason *The Pigman* should/should not be taught in schools is _____
(circle one)

List the *specific* examples from the story that you used to prove this point. There should be more than one, and they should refer to *specific* events in the story:

What was your transition sentence? If you didn't have one, write one now.

Body Paragraph #3

Complete the topic sentence with your first main point. (It should read as a clear, complete sentence).

The third reason *The Pigman* should/should not be taught in schools is _____
(circle one)

List the *specific* examples from the story that you used to prove this point. There should be more than one, and they should refer to *specific* events in the story:

What was your clincher sentence? If you didn't have one, write one now.

Reflection Questions: Did you have clearly stated topic sentences in the body paragraphs of your essay? Did all of your body paragraphs include at least two (2) *specific* references to the story, or were your supporting statements mostly generalizations? Did you remember transitions?

Conclusion Paragraph

Write a summary sentence that restates (in different words) the thesis statement you circled above:

How did you restate your main points in different words than you used in the introduction?

Was your closing sentence (clincher) memorable and effective?