



**ANALOGY
ESSAY**

STRUCTURE

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

- I. TITLE
- II. INTRODUCTION
- III. DIFFERENCES
- IV. RESEMBLANCES
 - o R. #1
 - o R. #2
 - o R. #3
 - o R. #4
- V. CONCLUSION

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

I. TITLE:

- o Identify the 2 subjects
- o Identify their relationship
 - o analogous, alike,
 - o similar, resemble
- o What is your analogy?!

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

I. TITLE:

o X Is like Y

- o format = like a **SIMILE**
- o X (your focus) should be the 1st word
- o capitalize “is” (verb)
- o don’t capitalize “like” (preposition)

o Fast Food Is like Prostitution

o A Drug Addiction Is like a Life Sentence

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

II. INTRODUCTION:

- o Introduces Subject X
 - o the issue at hand, its status
 - o perhaps through recent events, court cases, headlines

- o Ends with your **ANALOGY STATEMENT**
 - o Subject X *is like* Subject Y *in terms of* 1, 2, and 3.
 - o Fast food is like prostitution due to its effects on the body, its initial price, and its long-term costs.
 - o A drug addiction is like a life sentence in terms of its effects on family, friends, and society.

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

III. DIFFERENCES:

- o Admit the minor or obvious differences
 - o “minor” in comparison to the resemblances
 - o the 3 most obvious differences
- o **One (1) paragraph**
 - o “Name” and “explain” briefly
 - o Merely acknowledge them, recognize, concede, grant
- ❖ However, they are NOT the crux of your essay
 - o Do NOT go into great detail
 - o Thus, they do *not* make up half the essay
 - o Thus, they are *not* as long as the resemblance section
 - o Thus, they can be dealt with **in a single paragraph**

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

III. DIFFERENCES:

- o Admitting the differences is necessary –
 - o Helps build your **ETHOS**
 - o You are proving you've thought this idea through
 - o You are admitting the other side
 - o You are confessing & addressing its vulnerability
 - o You are showing that you have nothing to hide
 - o Now your opponent cannot attack your argument from this angle because you have already discussed these issues.

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

III. DIFFERENCES:

- o Admitting the differences is necessary –
 - o Helps **fortify** a vulnerable rhetorical strategy
 - o Susceptible because of these differences, because subjects rarely are perfect matches,
 - o Protect your flank, shore up defenses, buttress



ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

IV-VII. RESEMBLANCES:

- o This section *is* the **CRUX** of your essay
 - o These resemblances between Subjects X&Y are the purpose of the paper
 - o More *significant, important, relevant* than the differences
 - o More *illustrative* of your argument
 - o The majority/bulk of the Body deals with them

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

IV-VII. RESEMBLANCES:

- o Discuss in full
 - o *1 resemblance per paragraph*

- o Emphatic Order:
 - o Save the most significant resemblance for *last*
 - o And label it as such, in a transition

See “paragraph structure” below
See “transitions” below

ANALOGY ESSAY

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

- I. NAME
- II. EXPLAIN
- III. ILLUSTRATE
 - o Y
 - o X
- IV. REITERATE

ANALOGY ESSAY

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

I. NAME:

- o In a **TOPIC SENTENCE**, clearly identify the particular resemblance to be discussed in the paragraph.
- o This is a trait that **BOTH** subjects share.
- o One resemblance between a life sentence and a drug addiction involves the missing of special events.
- o Another trait that both fast food and prostitution share is long-term effects.

ANALOGY ESSAY

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

II. EXPLAIN:

- o *Define* your term BUT do NOT discuss X or Y
 - o clarify what you mean by this term, this resemblance
 - o “cost” =? (personal, financial, spiritual, other?)
- o Briefly (sentence or two)
- o That is to say, In other words
- o By “cost” I mean the losses to one’s self-respect.

ANALOGY ESSAY

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

III. ILLUSTRATE:

- o Illustrate the resemblance:
 - o specific instances, personal experiences, hypotheticals
 - o *the longest, most important paragraph part ***
- o **Y = 1st**
- o **X = 2nd**
 - o emphatic order, the position of focus, importance
 - o the KNOWN 1st, the UNKNOWN 2nd

FAIR WARNING:

Students lose many points because of this:

Illustrate Y 1st, X 2nd

ANALOGY ESSAY

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

III. ILLUSTRATE:

- o Subject Y: (always 1st)
 - o the known
 - o For example, with a life imprisonment sentence,...
 - o “Illustrate” how incarceration prevents a person from participating in the milestones of a child’s life.
- o Subject X: (always 2nd)
 - o the unknown, your focus
 - o Be specific (specific instance) – esp. for X
 - o For example, with a drug addiction,...
 - o “Illustrate” how addiction, too, prevents a person from “being there” for the child.

ANALOGY ESSAY

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

IV. REITERATE:

- o In a **CLINCHER SENTENCE** (Warrant Statement) repeat the resemblance that BOTH share.
 - o Basically, refer back to the Topic Sentence.
 - o Bring the paragraph full-circle.
 - o Don't leave it open-ended.
 - o Perhaps transition to the next resemblance *as well*.
- o Thus, as these examples demonstrate, a third significant resemblance between X and Y concerns Z.

ANALOGY ESSAY

TRANSITIONS

- o Use transitions and transitional expressions
- o Between sentences and between paragraphs
 - o to *enumerate* Differences, Resemblances
 - o additionally, likewise
 - o to *signal* a switch in logical direction
 - o on the other hand, however
 - o to *switch* between subjects, from Subject Y to Subject X
 - o likewise, similarly

ANALOGY ESSAY

TRANSITIONS

- o Transition to your Thesis, Analogy Statement
 - o Thus, X is like Y in terms of ...
- o Transition to your Differences:
 - o Despite the significance of the resemblances, some minor differences do exist and I would be remiss if I did not briefly discuss them.
- o Transition from your Differences to your Resemblances:
 - o When you do so, stress the significance of the resemblances in relation to the differences
 - o Despite these obvious differences, more significant (more important, noteworthy, considerable,...) resemblances exist between X and Y. For one, ...

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

VIII. CONCLUSION:

- o Repeat your Analogy Statement
- o Repeat the resemblances
 - o the “usual” Conclusion material

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

VIII. CONCLUSION:

❖ *****Make clear your argument*****

- This is an **argument paper**.
- You wrote this essay to **argue** for or against a particular issue.
- This was NOT a mere exercise in finding resemblances between 2 unconnected ideas.
- You used analogy as an **argumentative** tool.
- Your **argument** is *more than* the fact that these 2 subjects share traits.

ANALOGY ESSAY

GENERAL OUTLINE

VIII. CONCLUSION:

- o What are you trying to say about **Subject X**?
- o What do readers gain from the connection?
 - o What do they learn, understand, appreciate, or realize **about X** by relating X to Y?
- o Do they understand **Subject X** better or appreciate it more?
- o What is the argument behind your analogy?
- o What are you arguing for or against?
- o What point or position are you arguing?
- o What is your point or position?
- o If we think of X in terms of Y, or as Y, then what do we realize **about X**?
- o **"So what?!" *****
 - o *X is like Y - So what?! What's your point? What are you trying to say about Subject X?*

THE END