

KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN:

Explanatory Essay

Your controlling idea is your **THESIS**. You make the thesis statement and support it with examples and details.

Most reasonable readers will accept your point once you have explained it in detail.

Introductory Paragraph:

- 1) Capture the Reader's Interest
- 2) State the **THESIS**
- 3) Introduce the major divisions or primary points.

1-3-1 Format

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Body Paragraph (1st Point)
- 3) Body Paragraph (2nd Point)
- 4) Body Paragraph (3rd Point)
- 5) Concluding Paragraph

Concluding Paragraph:

- 1) Restate your **thesis**.
- 2) Summarize your major divisions/points.

Persuasive Essay

Your controlling idea is a **PROPOSITION**. You state your proposition and *defend it*.

You assume the reader is *against* your point, as you are proposing an arguable position.

Introductory Paragraph:

- 1) Capture the Reader's Interest
- 2) State your **PROPOSITION**
- 3) Introduce the major divisions

1-3-1 Format

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Body Paragraph (1st Point)*
- 3) Body Paragraph (2nd Point)
- 4) Body Paragraph (3rd Point) *
- 5) Concluding Paragraph+

*ALSO, in the 1st OR 3rd Body paragraph you must have a **Concession** and **Refutation**. The concession is where a writer *politely* recognizes the opposite view. The refutation is where you dismiss or refute that view with stronger evidence to support your position.

+The concluding paragraph must restate the proposition & major points but it also includes a **Call to Action**: what to do now.