



ELA Virtual Learning

Composition and Reading 2: Crafting an Outline

May 1, 2020

Composition and Reading II

Lesson: May 1, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will organize their thoughts into an outline to more effectively form a coherent argument with a strong thesis and relevant supporting evidence.

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Answer the following questions in your notebook.

Starting Question(s):

- 1. Describe your writing process. How do you get your ideas organized?**
- 2. Do you find that you use your time more wisely when you have a checklist in place?**
- 3. Which comes first in your writing process? Research, or ideas?**



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Learn:

After you have your story and approach to criticism, it is time to begin the writing process in earnest. What are you attempting to argue? A **thesis** is a statement of argument that you will support in your paper with primary and secondary citation in order to aid a reader in understanding your unique interpretation of the text that you have chosen. An **outline** helps you organize your supporting ideas in a way that allows your paper to flow easily between paragraphs and become more accessible to a reader.



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Learn:

To generate your thesis, consider the annotations that you made while reading. As you read the story with your critical lens, what **specifically** stuck out about the text? Remember that I suggested that you read the text twice: once for content, and once to apply critical theory. Between the first and second readings of the story, how did your interpretation of the text change? For example, reading “Speech Sounds” for content delivers an engaging post-apocalyptic narrative, but on a second reading while applying feminist theory, I found that the dynamics of gender relations in the post-apocalypse become much more pronounced than they are in the modern day.



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Practice:

I would like you to draft a thesis and outline on a separate document. Please base your thesis and outline on the story and approach to criticism that you chose in the previous lesson. [Here](#) is the full assignment sheet. An example is included.



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Wrap-Up:

You may have noticed that there are no secondary sources utilized on the example. For this assignment, it is fine if you have not conducted any research yet. An outline is meant to organize your ideas in a way that will help your writing. If you would only like to include primary evidence supports for this assignment, that is fine! We are taking this one step at a time, and research will come later.