

Name _____

“Flowers for Algernon”/Awakenings

Argument/Persuasive Essay

Body Paragraphs 1 and 2

1. Start off each body paragraph with a specific topic sentence. The topic sentence should set up what the body paragraph will focus on. You should be able to take that one sentence out of the paragraph and know what the entire paragraph will be about (just a general idea – not all the details).
2. You can either reference the thesis first in your topic sentence or go straight into stating the reasons you will discuss.

Examples of Topic Sentences:

The evidence shows that it was more (detrimental/beneficial) to Charlie Gordon to have the experimental surgery. One reason for this is...

Two reasons for why it was more (detrimental/beneficial) for Charlie Gordon to have the experimental surgery are...

3. Each body paragraph (you are writing **two** in this essay) should include two reasons to support the thesis along with sufficient evidence/examples (at least **two**) to support each reason. So, in short, two reasons and four examples.
4. After you state a reason (that supports the thesis), go on to discussing and supporting your argument. This is where you include specific details from the story or movie to help prove your thesis. Make sure that your details are clear and specific. Include quotes when you can and it works. Make sure to thoroughly explain what each example shows (including quotes). Don't just put an example in and move on to the next point. Explain the connection between the examples and the reasons that they support.
5. **REMINDER** – do not use “I” in your writing. Ex: “I think,” “I know,” “I will prove,” “In my opinion,” etc.