

Persuasive Essay for the Trial of a Century. Pick a side: Prosecution or Defense. Create an outline for a five paragraph essay defending your claim about SpongeBob Squarepants. You must have a strong thesis statement with three points (reasons he is either guilty or innocent).

This essay is a persuasive paper. Remember to use formal language to create your essay. Strong words help readers believe your claims.

Day One: Write your outline

Day Two: Write the first two paragraphs of your rough draft including your thesis statement.

Day Three: Write the last three paragraphs of your rough draft.

Day Four: Use the rubric / checklist to edit your paper.

Day Five: Finish the final copy of your essay. Share it with me on Google Docs if you have the internet. My email address is melissa.ashton@elsd.us.

Outline

Creating an outline is an easy way to organize your material for your paper. An outline is like a road map because you plan your paper just like you would plan a route. We will all be using the same basic outline:

Directions: Fill in the blanks with 1-2 sentences. Do not use any personal pronouns (I, me, my, you, we, or us)

Intro Paragraph
Define your topic

Thesis Statement (What are you proving? What is your claim?) ONE SENTENCE. You must have three points.

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Paragraph 2

1st reason that proves your point

Paragraph 3

2nd reason that proves your point

Paragraph 4

3rd Reason that proves your point

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Paragraph 5

Conclusion (How did you support your position?)

FOR THE MURDER OF MR. KRABS



Murder under the Sea!

The city of Bikini Bottom has been rocked with news of the death of Mr. Krabs, owner of the Krusty Krab restaurant. From the moment the under-water police discovered the gruesome scene, they suspected foul play. At first, they thought the killer might be Sheldon Plankton, owner of the Chum Bucket restaurant and long-time rival of Mr. Krabs. But no physical evidence could be tied to Plankton. As the investigation progressed, more and more of the evidence pointed to one of Mr. Krabs's employees, none other than SpongeBob SquarePants himself.

SpongeBob insists that he's innocent. The authorities don't buy Mr. SquarePants's claims, but he has found a team of defense lawyers who do. Some of the evidence does, in fact, seem to indicate that SpongeBob's story might actually be true. Whatever really happened, this is shaping up to be the trial of the underwater century!



Crime Scene Evidence

1. Mr. Krabs was found dead inside of the Krusty Krab restaurant. His throat had been cut. The coroner concluded that the wound on Mr. Krabs's throat was caused by a metal spatula.
2. There was a spatula found next to the body. It was covered in Mr. Krabs's blood, but so was everything else around it. The spatula had several sets of fingerprints, including SpongeBob's, Squidward's, and Mr. Krabs's.

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3. The coroner concluded that Mr. Krabs had bled to death, but the victim also had signs of bluntforce trauma to the back of his head.
 4. The floor in the Krusty Krab restaurant was covered with Mr. Krabs' blood, but it was also very slick with cooking grease—several of the crime scene investigators slipped and fell during the investigation.
 5. SpongeBob's footprints were found all over on the greasy floor around Mr. Krabs's body, along with the footprints of many other people. His footprints were NOT found in the blood puddle.
 6. There was no sign of a break-in at the restaurant.
 7. The Krusty Krab cash register was completely empty.
 8. Mr. Krabs's safe was found open, and the recipe for his Krabby Patty was NOT found in it.
 9. There was a tiny cut on Mr. Krabs's finger, but it was partially healed. Investigators concluded that this cut happened several weeks before Mr. Krabs's death.
- Suspect Evidence
10. SpongeBob has worked at the Krusty Krab restaurant for years. In all that time, he has never received a raise.
 11. Plankton has a long history of trying to sabotage Mr. Krabs's restaurant and steal his secret recipes.
 12. Inside SpongeBob's home, investigators found a spatula with traces of Mr. Krabs' blood on it. The spatula handle had SpongeBob's fingerprints, as well as Mr. Krabs's.
 13. Three days after Mr. Krabs's death, Plankton began selling a crab burger recipe on his website, www.chumbucket.ocean. The recipe was very similar to Mr. Krabs's Krabby Patty recipe, but it wasn't exactly the same.
 14. During a search of Plankton's home, investigators did NOT find the Krabby Patty recipe or any spatulas.
 15. SpongeBob was the only person other than Mr. Krabs who had keys to the restaurant and knew the combination to the safe.
 16. Two days after Mr. Krabs's death, Plankton went to the bank and paid the remainder SpongeBob's pineapple house loan. Plankton says he did this out of the goodness of his heart.

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Witness Testimony

17. Sandy testified that SpongeBob was desperately in need of money because the bank was going to repossess his pineapple house. She said SpongeBob had recently asked Mr. Krabs for a raise. Mr. Krabs denied him, stating that the business wasn't doing very well and there wasn't enough money to give anyone a raise. SpongeBob was pretty upset.

18. Patrick said that SpongeBob told him, "Mr. Krabs is a greedy pig. He's gonna wish he'd given me a raise!"

19. SpongeBob said that he went to the Krusty Krab restaurant the morning of Mr. Krabs's death in order to beg one last time for a raise. When Mr. Krabs denied him again, SpongeBob told him that he quit. Then he left and went home to his pineapple. He said he believed that Mr. Krabs would have a difficult time replacing him and that he'd regret losing his best employee.

20. Squidward saw SpongeBob enter the Krusty Krab restaurant two hours before Mr. Krabs was found dead. An hour later, he heard Mr. Krabs screaming loudly. After waiting a while, Squidward went into the restaurant to investigate, and that's when he found the dead body.

21. SpongeBob testified that two weeks before Mr. Krabs's death, Mr. Krabs accidentally cut his finger on a spatula. SpongeBob offered to take it home to get it clean, but then he forgot to bring it back to the restaurant.

22. Plankton said that the recipe he started selling on his website was one that he created with the help of his computerized wife, Karen. He affirmed that he did not steal Mr. Krabs's Krabby Patty recipe and that he did not kill Mr. Krabs.

23. Patrick said he went to the Krusty Krab four hours before Mr. Krabs was found dead. The restaurant was locked, so Patrick knocked on the door. Mr. Krabs came out looking very upset. He told Patrick that the Krusty Krab was closed and that he might never sell another Krabby Patty again.

Next: Write a rough draft using your outline as a guide to your essay. You must have five complete sentences with a hook statement, thesis statement, and topic sentences. You must have a strong introduction with background information about the crime.

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Rubric for Essay:

***The Trial of the Century* Essay Rubric: Worth 110 Points. Each is worth 10 Points.**

1. Your paper must have at least 5 paragraphs: _____
2. You must have a strong hook statement for your first paragraph: _____
3. You must have a strong topic sentence for each of your remaining 4 paragraphs: _____
4. You must have a clear and strong thesis statement with 3 points: _____
5. Your first paragraph should be the introduction paragraph with a brief overview of what your paper will be about: _____
6. Your second paragraph should be about your first piece of evidence about why SpongeBob is either guilty or innocent: _____
7. Your third paragraph should be about your second piece of evidence about why SpongeBob is either guilty or innocent: _____
8. The fourth paragraph should be about your third piece of evidence about why SpongeBob is either guilty or innocent _____
9. The fifth paragraph should be the conclusion. You are wrapping up the essay. You will restate your thesis statement (but in different words). You restate your position about whether SpongeBob is guilty or innocent: _____
10. You must use three quotes from the evidence (place the quote in quotation marks):

11. You must use correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, sentence structure, etc.: _____