

Sample Argumentative Multi-Paragraph Outline

Prompt: Write an argumentative essay in which you take a clear position on this question: Do book bans help or harm young people? Support your position with information from at least two of the articles you have read.

Claim: Book bans harm young people by preventing them from seeing themselves in stories and by limiting their opportunities to understand diverse perspectives.	
Reason 1: Prevents some young people from seeing their own lives represented in books	Topic Sentence: First, book bans harm young people by keeping them from seeing themselves and their experiences reflected in stories, which can affect their sense of belonging. Supporting Details: • "The Heavy Cost . . ." par. 9 anecdote: Young people lose role models, "There is a real cost . . ." • "What Role Do Parents Play . . ." par. 14 statistic: Marginalized groups targeted by book bans • "Stories That Challenge Us . . ." par. 14 expert quote: Students have "better educational outcomes"
Reason 2: Limits young people's ability to develop empathy	Topic Sentence: Additionally, restricting access to books is harmful because it limits young people's opportunities to learn from others' perspectives and develop empathy. Supporting Details: • Meagher, par. 14 study/statistic: Fiction builds empathy • Mello-Klein, par. 19 expert quote: "Foundation of a good community"