

THE AGE OF THE EARTH

How to write the research paper

Paragraph 1:

Sentence 1—Catchy quotation about the age of the Earth and citation

EX: A famous scientist, James Hutton, once said “The present is the key to the past.” (Glencoe, Focus on Life Science)

Sentence 2—states the importance of the Age of the Earth

EX: The age of the Earth is still a hot topic of debate today among scientists, as it helps us to define who we are and when we began.

Sentence 3—One theory is.... (state the first theory going to be discussed)

Sentence 4—Another theory is...(State the second theory going to be discussed)

Sentence 5—States the importance of looking at the evidences and rebuttals for both sides.

Paragraph 2&4:

Sentence 1—Introduces the first theory and states what it is by transitioning from paragraph 1.

EX: In regards to the age of the Earth, there are scientists who hold to a [insert theory 1 here without brackets] year old earth, and their theory is based on some essential pieces of evidence.

Sentence 2—State evidence 1 for theory 1 with citation

EX: One piece of evidence that was found is (author, article title)

OR

According to [enter authors name here without brackets] in the article [enter article title here without brackets]

Sentence 3—State evidence 2 for theory 1 with citation

Sentence 4—State evidence 3 for theory 1 with citation

Sentence 5—Transition sentence mentioning that there are rebuttals to these evidences.

EX: While these evidences may be compelling, there are others who have found arguments against these claims.

Paragraph 3&5:

Sentence 1—Introduces that there are rebuttals specifically for the theory mentioned above.

EX: There are some scientists who would disagree with a [enter theory 1 here talked about in paragraph 1 without brackets] year old earth based on some counter-evidences found.

Sentence 2—state rebuttal against evidence 1 with citation

EX: According to....[insert evidence 1] cannot be correct because [insert rebuttal 1] (author, title)

Sentence 3—State rebuttal against evidence 2 with citation

Sentence 4—State rebuttal against evidence 3 with citation

Sentence 5—Transition sentence mentioning that there is still another theory out there.

EX: These scientists have found many evidences against [state theory 1], and thus there must be yet another theory with more evidences.

Paragraph 6:

Sentence 1—briefly recap that there are different theories of the age of the earth

Sentence 2—Recap both theories that were mentioned.

Sentence 3—State your opinion as to how old you think the earth is based on the evidences.

Sentence 4—State specifically why you found your opinion to be most correct

Sentence 5—Closure sentence could ask the reader their opinion, or sum up the paper leaving it open ended.

EX: After looking at the different theories and evidences, it is plain to see that this debate will continue for years to come.

MLA format:

Double Spaced	Double space the whole paper
Heading	On left side top of paper (see example) Every page is numbered (see example)
1" margins	All around the paper
Title	Paper must have a title

The diagram illustrates the MLA format layout with the following elements and annotations:

- 1"**: A vertical double-headed arrow indicating a 1-inch margin from the top of the page to the start of the heading.
- Your Name**: The first line of the heading.
- Instructor's Name**: The second line of the heading.
- Class information (English 1A)**: The third line of the heading.
- Date**: The fourth line of the heading.
- double space text**: A horizontal arrow pointing left from the heading area to the text area, indicating that the heading is double-spaced.
- Winters 1**: The page number, positioned in the upper right corner.
- Page Number**: A red arrow pointing from the text "Page Number" to the page number "Winters 1".
- Center Title of Essay**: The title of the essay, centered below the heading.
- Begin your paragraph one double-spaced line below**: A horizontal double-headed arrow indicating the start of the first paragraph, one double-spaced line below the title.
- 1"**: A horizontal double-headed arrow indicating a 1-inch margin from the left side of the page to the start of the paragraph.
- double space text**: A horizontal arrow pointing left from the paragraph area to the text area, indicating that the paragraph is double-spaced.