

# Thesis, Outline, and Draft Models

## This I Believe Essay

### Thesis Statements

**THESIS: SUBJECT + WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT IT**

For this particular essay, here are 2 examples:

#### (A): The 3-pronged approach

I believe that challenges are good because they allow us to learn from our mistakes, become comfortable with change, and grow into well-rounded individuals.

The thesis above lends itself nicely to a five paragraph essay structure, where the three points listed become the three body paragraphs:

1. learn from our mistakes
2. become comfortable with change
3. grow into well-rounded individuals

The **subject** is: Challenges are good

**What I have to say about it:** they allow us to learn from our mistakes, become comfortable with change, and grown into well-rounded individuals

#### (B): The Inclusive Approach

I believe the challenges we face are the catalyst which allows us to become who we are meant to be.

This thesis does not lay out the *specific* points that will be addressed in the essay, but it does give a general direction. The **subject** is: the challenges we face. **What I have to say about it is:** they are the catalyst which allows us to become who we are meant to be.

**MAKE SURE YOUR THESIS HAS BOTH A SUBJECT AND A POINT!!!**

## Sample Outline: This I Believe Essay

Your outline should look something like this (*parts in italic are explanations of the section. All regularly formatted parts should be included on your outline. You may have as many examples and supporting details in each paragraph as you deem necessary to illustrate your point*):

John Doe (*your name*)

Professor Estrada (*your prof's name*)

ENG 121-152 (*class*)

9 September 2013 (*date: day month year or month day, year: September 9, 2013*)

### This I Believe Outline

Intro: (*general topic*) Challenges are good

Thesis: I believe that challenges are good because they allow us to learn from our mistakes, become comfortable with change, and grow into well-rounded individuals.

I. (*First body paragraph*) Learning from mistakes

1. (*First example*)

- *supporting detail*
- *explanation*

2. (*Second example*)

- *supporting detail*
- *explanations*

II. (*Second body paragraph*) Become comfortable with change

1. (*First example*)

- *supporting detail*
- *explanation*

2. *(Second example)*

- *supporting detail*
- *explanations*

III. *(Third Body Paragraph) Growing into Well-rounded People*

1. *(First example)*

- *supporting detail*
- *explanation*

2. *(Second example)*

- *supporting detail*
- *explanations*

Conclusion: *(a statement that sums up your essay, which you will use to write or include in your concluding paragraph)*