

Objective

- After completing notes on the basic parts of a an academic essay, and evaluating sample THESIS statements students will be able to:
 - Create a focused and clear THESIS STATEMENT;
 - Complete a THOROUGH OUTLINE that identifies guiding questions that will be answered in the essay
 - Use the outline to write essay.

Objective

- After completing notes on the basic parts of a an academic essay, and evaluating sample essays, students will be able to:
 - Write a complete introduction.
 - Use the outline to write essay.

THE NO Fail FORMULA

Introduction: ANT

Body: TIEAC

Conclusion: RRR



Introduction: ANT

Attention Getter: Introduce the topic that the prompt asks you to explore.

Necessary Background: Introduce the **texts** that are being explored to understand the topic. Include full name of author title of text and paraphrase necessary background.

Thesis Statement: Directly answer the prompt's central question. Include key signal words. **WARNING:** If your thesis statement is vague and unclear, the rest of your essay will surely fall apart.

"The Self-Made Man: A Literary Analysis of Early American Literature"

From Columbus' journey to the Americas to the present, the American dream is the ideal in which the inhabitants of this great nation have aimed. Though varying in definition throughout generations, the fundamental premise of this ideal asserts that in America, success can be achieved by anyone through hard work and dedication (Miller "Course T. "). Essentially, the American dream can be attained by exhibiting characteristics of the self-made man. The importance of the self-made man is evident in the way it was extensively explored and highlighted in early American literature. Benjamin Franklin, John de Crevecoeur, Frederick Douglass and Ralph Waldo Emerson were all great American writers who had a personal belief system centered on accountability and determination. **Because of their shared belief in self-improvement and personal responsibility, the works of Franklin, Crevecoeur, Douglass, and Emerson consistently embody the theme of the self-made man and the American dream.** 

“The Self-Made Man: A Literary Analysis of Early American Literature”

From Columbus’ journey to the Americas to the present, the American dream is the ideal in which the inhabitants of this great nation have lived. Though varying in definition throughout generations, the fundamental premise of this ideal asserts that in America, success can be achieved by anyone through hard work and dedication (Miller “Course 1”). Essentially, the American dream can be attained by exhibiting characteristics of the self-made man. The importance of the self-made man is evident in the way it was extensively explored and highlighted in early American literature. Benjamin Franklin, John de Crevecoeur, Frederick Douglass and Ralph Waldo Emerson all gave great American writers who had a personal belief system centered on accountability and determination **because of their shared belief in self-improvement and personal responsibility, the works of Franklin, Crèvecoeur, Douglass, and Emerson consistently embody the theme of the self-made man and the American dream.**

As one of our country’s founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin has long been regarded as one of the most important contributors to the foundation of America and its ideals. From humble beginnings to staggering success through diligence, *self-reliance*, *prudence* and *resourcefulness*, Franklin set the example for the self-made man (Bibb 76). Franklin believed the only way to achieve the American dream was to consistently control his in his written work and the way

he lived his life until those errors were eradicated, transforming him into a man of outstanding character as the very last, learning to never repeat them (Dei Gratias, par. 3). In conclusion, Franklin’s decision to base his life on an experience centered on his consistent and deliberate desires for self-improvement to achieve success. In order to attain the American dream he shares a final detailing of a strict regimen of daily experience he adheres to by remaining focused and virtuous. Beginning with the question “what good shall I do this day?” and ending with “what good have I done today?” Franklin’s do-list makes strict provision **“on every part of his day so that no time is wasted on anything other than the improving of his self” (Franklin 7).**

This list functions as an outline of events, **highlighting** day in the life of a self-made man who desires to attain greatness, always asking the question if he has done enough today, so that he can improve tomorrow. In this *Autobiography*, Franklin also speaks of a specific circumstance that responses how with a hard-working, self-made man has changed his life when he tells the story of how he gradually began to see the fruits of his labor in his home. He says:

My breakfast was a long time bread and milk, and a few drops of tea, and was over of a wretched creature, and with a little more. But mark how luxury will enter families, and make a progress, as quick as lightning: before called one morning to breakfast, I found in a China bowl, with a spoon of silver, the first of my plate of gold and silver, and so on brass, which afterward, in a course of years, as my wealth increased, augmented gradually to several hundred pounds in value. (Franklin 3)

Again, Franklin is highlighting how the self-made man will continue to increase in success and progression even in the most basic aspects of life. The constant mentioning of this relationship between how hard Franklin worked and the amount of success he achieved, shows

the importance he placed on the theme of the self-made man and solidifies his legacy as an example of how being self-made will transform the American dream to reality.

by linking John De Crevcoeur against his title to highlight the significance of the salacious man by discrediting the idea of the American identity. Although not a natural born American, DeCrevcoeur immigrated to America from France and found himself in the way of this newly forming nation that presented a platform to observe and test the effects of diligence and sacrifice (Paragraph 17). Unlike what he witnessed in France, he viewed America as a place where he had unlimited opportunities to overcome any condition, because there "are no aristocratic families, no courts, no kings, no nobles, no ecclesiastical domains, no invisible power giving to a few a vast empire" (Paragraph 14). In his narrative *Letters from an American Farmer*, DeCrevcoeur provides an imaginative account of the way the first colonists must have felt like after settling here. He writes, "we must guard ourselves that the level at a time when this view of things discovered and settled, be necessarily false when a share of national pride, or the civil state of sentiments which embelish them extend abroad. When we return to himself, this is the work of your countrymen" (Crevcoeur 13). Here, DeCrevcoeur provides an example of what can be accomplished when industrious and determined people take responsibility of their own success and work tirelessly to improve their situation. Describing a prosperous and thriving America in this way leads to the contention that Crevcoeur viewed the audience man as a critical part of the foundation of this country.

Another great American writer who has also effectively outlined his belief in and support of personal capability and advancing success through one's own painstaking actions is Frederick Douglass. As a slave who braved against his own freedom by escaping to the North, he had first-hand experience of what it took to overcome his situation in order to accomplish the

American Dream. In his *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, Douglass reveals a turning point in his life where he challenges and tapers his enslavement. Mr. Covey, after he attempts to whip him for several inflections, Douglass writes, "I had it never felt before. It was a glorious revelation, from the hands of slavery, to the heaven of freedom. My long-enslaved spirit soon, cowardly subdued, bold defiance took its place, and I now resolved that, however long I might remain a slave in form, the day passed forever when I could be a slave in fact" (40). Even while living under the oppression of the institution of slavery, it is at this point when Douglass begins to silently and to his mental reapportion the importance of being responsible for the desired outcome of obtaining his freedom (Douglass 70). He understands that the only way to normally and physically realize his aspirations of the American Dream, it is only take Douglass first years after these events to expose to freedom, he sees this realization of the importance of the self-made man. Determined, in control of and responsible for his own life, to see his American Dream realized.

his quoted and instilled by Douglass, Ralph Waldo Emerson was also quite famous for his belief in the self-made man. He wrote and spoke frequently of this during a time where he began to see the signs of slavery and oppression (Emerson 199). Declaring an entire section of the *Self-Reliance* to be a sign of self-reliance, Emerson provides several examples of why it is pertinent for one to understand and possess the qualities of an individual man. His begins by writing, "to believe your own powers, to believe that what is true for you in your private heart is true for all men, — that is genius" (Emerson 1). This proclamation is the foundation of Emerson's belief that acknowledging the physical and mental contributions of others, relying solely on one's own thoughts and thinking them into being in the way to achieve individuality and success (Machado, Levine 126). Emerson goes on to say that men

The works of Benjamin Franklin, John de Crevecoeur, Frederick Douglass and Ralph Waldo Emerson consistently reinforce the theme of the self-made man as the foundation for the American dream, echoing their personal belief in self-betterment and culpability. Franklin's *Autobiography*, Crevecoeur's *Letters from an American Farmer*, Douglass' *Narrative*, and Emerson's *Self-Reliance* are four brilliant examples of the frequency and dominant way these writers proclaim their affinity for and belief in the importance of the self-made man to attain their own definition of the American dream. It is through these analogous and unwavering ideologies that their work will continue to speak for their own personal truths for many years to come.

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The Outline!

Paragraph 1: INTRODUCE SUBJECT & ANSWER
PROMPT QUESTION

Paragraph 2: Decide on TOPIC & Create a TOPIC
Question & Outline using TIE-AC GUIDING QUESTIONS

Paragraph 3: Decide on TOPIC & Create a TOPIC
Question & Outline using TIE-AC GUIDING QUESTIONS

Paragraph 4: Decide on TOPIC & Create a TOPIC
Question & Outline using TIE-AC GUIDING QUESTIONS

Paragraph 5: CONCLUDE by RESTATING, REVIEWING,
RELATING

Final Draft

Due:
