Check list for evolution essay

How to write an essay information from <http://lklivingston.tripod.com/essay/index.html>

1. **Thesis statement**

The thesis statement tells the reader what the essay will be about, and what point you, the author, will be making. You know what the essay will be about. That was your topic. Now you must look at your outline or diagram and decide what point you will be making. What do the main ideas and supporting ideas that you listed say about your topic?

1. **Your thesis statement will have two parts.**

**Please base it on this question** How do we account for all of the diversity of organisms on the earth?

1. The first part states the topic. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. The second part states the point of the essay or you could simply list the three main ideas you will discuss.

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## Introduction

The introduction should be designed to attract the reader's attention and give her an idea of the essay's focus.

1. Begin with an attention grabber. The attention grabber you use is up to you, but here are some ideas:
   1. Starting information  
      This information must be true and verifiable, and it doesn't need to be totally new to your readers. It could simply be a pertinent fact that explicitly illustrates the point you wish to make.  
      If you use a piece of startling information, follow it with a sentence or two of [elaboration](http://lklivingston.tripod.com/essay/body.html#elaboration).
   2. Summary Information  
      A few sentences explaining your topic in general terms can lead the reader gently to your thesis. Each sentence should become gradually more specific, until you reach your thesis.
2. If the attention grabber was only a sentence or two, add one or two more sentences that will lead the reader from your opening to your thesis statement.
3. Finish the paragraph with your thesis statement.
4. **Body of Essay**

In the body of the essay, all the preparation up to this point comes to fruition. The topic you have chosen must now be explained, described, or argued.

Each main idea that you wrote down in your diagram or outline will become one of the body paragraphs. If you had three or four main ideas, you will have three or four body paragraphs.

## Each body paragraph will have the same basic structure.

1. Start by writing down one of your main ideas, in sentence form.  
   If your main idea is "reduces freeway congestion," you might say this:  
   Public transportation reduces freeway congestion.
2. Next, write down each of your supporting points for that main idea, but leave four or five lines in between each point.

Supporting Point example

Commuters appreciate the cost savings of taking public transportation rather than driving.

1. In the space under each point, write down some elaboration for that point.  
   Elaboration can be further description or explanation or discussion.

Elaboration example

Less driving time means less maintenance expense, such as oil changes.

Of course, less driving time means savings on gasoline as well.

In many cases, these savings amount to more than the cost of riding public transportation.

1. If you wish, include a summary sentence for each paragraph.

**Essay Body Check list: You should have paragraphs for the following units**

* 1. Genetics
     1. DNA/mutations
     2. Phenotype and genotype
     3. Alleles
     4. Variation
     5. Crossing over, pleitrophy, epistasis
     6. Meiosis vs mitosis
  2. Protein synthesis
     1. Mutations
     2. Variation
  3. Evolution
     1. Natural selection
     2. Genetic drift
     3. Speciation
     4. Change in allele frequency
     5. Variation

## Conclusion

1. The conclusion brings closure to the reader, summing up your points or providing a final perspective on your topic.
2. Restate thesis
3. Three or four strong sentences which do not need to follow any set formula. Simply review the main points (being careful not to restate them exactly) or briefly describe your feelings about the topic. Even an [anecdote](http://lklivingston.tripod.com/essay/intro.html#anecdote) can end your essay in a useful way.