


## OUTLINING THE ESSAY – for non-Golden Dancer essays

**Step 1:** What is your DRAFT THESIS? (Thesis is the statement that nails the focus: it identifies your answer to the prompt and previews your MSP's.)

**Step 2:** What is your support? How will you prove that your thesis is a logical and accurate interpretation of the text? Each MSP should show how the message is conveyed through one specific character. Explain to your reader how a character who “lives” the message experiences a positive outcome---or if the character doesn’t “live” the message, how that character is disgraced or suffers a loss. Back up your claims about a character’s actions and outcome with text proof.

**WHAT YOUR TYPED OUTLINE WILL LOOK LIKE** – Type all this and fill in all blanks

 This assumes that you have 2 positive models and 1 negative model---You could have all positive models, all negative models, or a mix.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPIC**= Identify one theme (message) in *Inherit the Wind*

**DRAFT THESIS** = One key message in *Inherit the Wind* is that -----; this message is conveyed through the characters of -----, -----, and -----.

**MSP 1:** (full sentence) = The first way the play communicates this message is through the actions, words, and outcome of \_\_\_\_\_. This character is a positive model for this message because he/she does \_\_\_\_\_ and in the end has a positive outcome.

**Text support for MSP 1 (at least one has to be a quote):**

**PROVE character’s actions or words that show he/she follows this message:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows the character follows the message: \_\_\_\_\_

**A 2<sup>nd</sup> piece of proof of the character’s actions or words that show he/she follows this message:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows the character follows the message: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROVE this character’s positive outcome:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows a positive outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**MSP 2:** (full sentence) = Another way the play communicates this message is through the actions, words, and outcome of \_\_\_\_\_. This character is also a positive model for this message because he/she does \_\_\_\_\_ and in the end has a positive outcome.

**Text support for MSP 2 (at least one has to be a quote):**

**PROVE the character's actions or words that show he/she follows this message:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows the character follows the message: \_\_\_\_\_

**A 2<sup>nd</sup> piece of proof of the character's actions or words that show he/she follows this message:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows the character follows the message: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROVE this character's positive outcome:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows a positive outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**MSP 3:** (full sentence) = The final way the play communicates this message is through the actions, words, and outcome of \_\_\_\_\_. This character is a negative model for this message because he/she does not \_\_\_\_\_ and in the end suffers a negative outcome.

**Text support for MSP 3 (at least one has to be a quote):**

**PROVE the character's actions or words that show he/she does not follow this message:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows the character does not follow the message: \_\_\_\_\_

**A 2<sup>nd</sup> piece of proof of the character's actions or words that show he/she does not follow this message:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows the character follows the message: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROVE this character's negative outcome:**

- Identify example or quote (+ cite) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain how this example or quote shows a negative outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:**

Sum up each MSP: \_\_\_\_\_

Echo (don't repeat the THESIS): \_\_\_\_\_

This message [is still/ or is not] a valid [or important ] one today because \_\_\_\_\_