

Sample Outline of a Definition Essay

Samples of Actual Definition Essays

OUTLINE - Patriotism Definition Essay

I. Introduction

- A. Attention getter: Traditional definition of patriotism (as perceived in an image)
- B. Thesis: Patriotism is speaking out when a person feels the country is right or wrong, voting, campaigning, and respecting others.

II. Body

- A. Speaking out when country is wrong
 - 1. Vietnam
 - 2. Slavery
 - 3. Women's right to vote
- B. Speaking out when country is right
 - 1. Afghanistan
 - 2. Health care
- C. Voting
 - 1. Making a choice based on one's needs
 - 2. Being involved in the voting process
- D. Campaigning
 - 1. Finding a candidate who represents country's needs
 - 2. Barbara Boxer from California
- E. Respecting others
 - 1. Paying taxes.
 - 2. Respecting others' points of view
 - 3. Arab-American prejudice after 9/11.

III. Conclusion

- A. Review of patriot as protestor, voter, and respectful citizen.
- B. Closing attention getter: return to introduction's image of patriot