

Elements UPDATE: Parts III and IV

If you are NOT doing original research (survey, experiment, etc.)

- **COMBINE parts III and IV. Mix the evidence/research with your analysis.**
- *Goal: To thoroughly address the primary arguments researchers have put forward regarding your topic, and to analyze and evaluate those arguments.*
- **Length:** Part III should now be between 5-10 pages.
- There should be opposing arguments (if there aren't any you probably need to revise/reframe your research topic, or do some more quality research).
- Most or all of your main sources used for your research should be cited during this section.
- This section should draw out and explain the nature of the controversy or topic you are researching.
- You should not lay out the organization of this section by source, but rather by argument. This means you shouldn't have a separate section for each source. Instead, you should organize these sources into the *kinds* of arguments they are making and deal with those arguments in turn.
- Your reader should be able to resolve the differences in arguments presented, and understand why you support certain ideas over other ideas.
- You should have convinced your reader of your case, so that your conclusion is easy to swallow.
- You should be ready to answer your research question in Part 5: Conclusion.

If you ARE doing original research (survey, experiment, etc.)

Part III: Summary of Past Research + Analysis

- *Goal: To thoroughly address the primary arguments researchers have put forward regarding your topic, and to analyze and evaluate those arguments.*
- **Length:** Part III should now be between 4-8 pages.
- There should be opposing arguments (if there aren't any you probably need to revise/reframe your research topic, or do some more quality research).
- Most or all of your main sources used for your research should be cited during this section.
- This section should draw out and explain the nature of the controversy or topic you are researching.
- You should not lay out the organization of this section by source, but rather by argument. This means you shouldn't have a separate section for each source. Instead, you should organize these sources into the *kinds* of arguments they are making and deal with those arguments in turn.
- Your reader should be able to resolve the differences in arguments presented, and understand why you support certain ideas over other ideas.

Part IV: Findings + Analysis

- *Goal: To present your findings to your audience, and share the results of your own research.*
- **Length:** This should be between 3-6 pages
- Briefly discuss your methodology in several paragraphs. HOW did you go about collecting your data? Were there any unique or interesting challenges associated with the research process? Explain. If you did interview or surveys, this is where you talk about how you chose your subjects, and the structure of your interviews/surveys. If you did an experiment, talk about your experiment design.
- Address strengths/weaknesses of your design and data.
- Discuss your findings. For interviews/surveys, what were the major themes and findings? For experiments, what data did you collect? What does it mean?