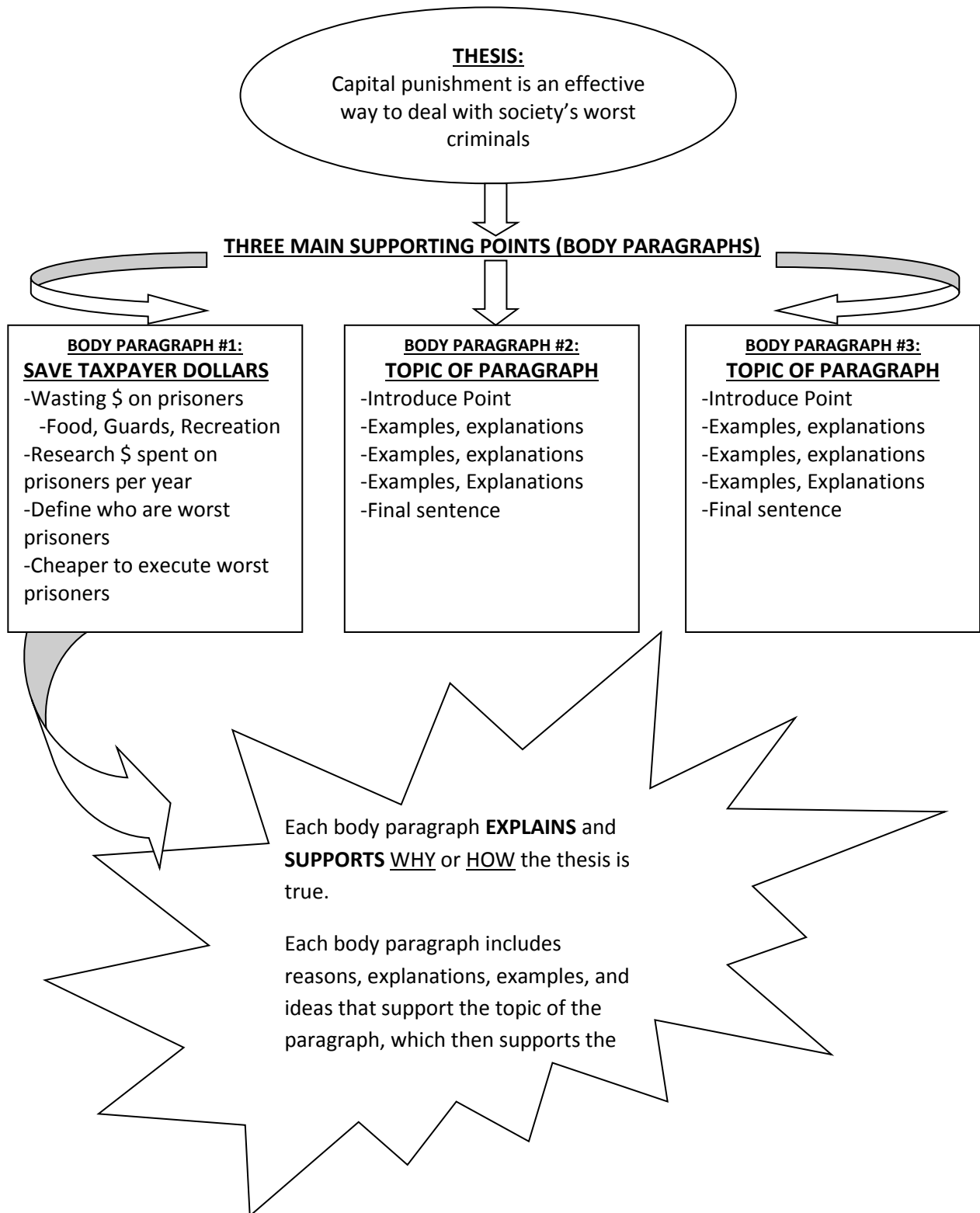


**STEP ONE: Planning Body Paragraphs: BRAINSTORMING USING A GRAPHIC ORGANIZER**



## STEP TWO: Planning Body Paragraphs: CREATING A BODY PARAGRAPH OUTLINE

Take the ideas that you have brainstormed in your graphic organizer for a body paragraph and expand it into a body paragraph outline.

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**THESIS:** Capital punishment is an effective way to deal with society's **worst** criminals

**TOPIC SENTENCE: (Introduce your paragraph)** Are we spending too much on the prison system? **The more prisoners there are in prisons, the more money taxpayers have to spend.**

*(Use examples, explanations, opinions, etc. that connect to each point. Then, ensure that you have an explanation for each. Explain WHY/HOW your point is important and WHY/HOW your point connects to what you are trying to prove. Make the connections and be specific and detailed!)*

- POINT #1** - **We waste too much money on prisoners**  
- Example(s): Food, guard costs, recreation (can include facts here)  
- Prisoners are allowed things some innocent people can't afford (i.e. poor people might not be able to have three meals a day)
- POINT #2** - **Worst criminals need more services, which cost more**  
- Special cells, separated from other prisoners  
- Example: Segregated cells; Avoiding fighting or costs of prison riots
- POINT #3** - **In the end, it's cheaper to execute the **worst** prisoners**  
- Important to explain WHO/WHAT is society's worst criminals

**FINAL SENTENCE/CONCLUSION:** Saving taxpayer dollars by executing the worst criminals makes sense because we should be spending taxpayer money on anything other than criminals. However, there are other reasons, such as [TOPIC 2] that support this argument.

**\*\*REMINDER\*\* Use facts, reasons, explanations, examples, ideas, detail, quotes to help explain and prove your topic sentence. Your topic sentence must clearly connect to and prove your thesis!**

### STEP THREE: Planning Body Paragraphs: CREATING PARAGRAPHS FROM OUTLINES

Take the completed paragraph brainstorm and expand ideas into sentences. Ensure you add transitional words and phrases to connect ideas, and that your paragraph is edited for spelling, grammar, clear ideas and completed points.

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**1. A Terrible Early First Draft Paragraph:**

Are we spending too much money on the prison system? The more prisoners there are, then the more money taxpayers have to spend. We waste too much money on prisoners. For example, food and bed is expensive. Also, prisoners get stuff poor people don't get. Finally, the worst criminals cost lots of money. These reasons show why the worst criminals should get executed.

**2. A Very Improved Paragraph with Details, Examples and Explanations:**

Are we spending too much money on the prison system? The more prisoners there are, the more money taxpayers have to spend. We waste too much money on prisoners. For example, food, recreation, and guard costs equal about \$30,000 per year, per prisoner. This is entirely paid for by taxpayers. Another reason that taxpayers should be frustrated is that prisoners are allowed some things that innocent people can't afford such as food and housing. Also, the worst criminals out there need more services, which cost more money. An example of this includes segregation, which means being isolated from other prisoners. This is expensive because normal prisoners are treated as a whole group and share things like guards while isolated prisoners need their own guards. In the end, it is clearly cheaper to execute the worst criminals – those who rape or intentional murder someone – because it is not fair to taxpayers. Therefore, saving taxpayer money by executing the worst criminals makes sense because we should be spending taxpayer money on anything other than these people.