## Example Essay Parts of Essay #3 An Introduction + one Body paragraph

Why, you ask, do immigrants come to the United States? More specifically, why do so many immigrants from countries in Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, etc.), immigrate to the United States? One common thought you and many people have is that immigrants come to the United States for "economic reasons, not legitimate reasons." While economic reasons may play a part in the cause of immigration, Central American immigrants migrate to the United States for more legitimate, serious, and complicated causes than just "economic reasons." For example, in Lauren Markham's book, The Faraway Brothers, it explains how a pair of twin brothers from El Salvador settle to the United States and their reasoning behind it. Between a slew of gang violence, poverty, and a corrupted government, the twin brothers from El Salvador, Raúl and Ernesto, had real, legit, and very complicated reasons to immigrate to the United States. That's why when people like you say that immigrants only come to the United States for "economic reasons," it's simply not true. Just as Markham expresses in her book, immigrants from Central America seek to enter the United States for complex reasons.

Lastly, Central Americans want to enter the United States because of a failing government. With a government that is failing to support its own people, comes some major issues. Markham explains some of these issues of this failing government by writing:

Things were indeed getting worse around La Colonia. The nearby town had jumped to the sixteenth most dangerous municipality in the country, with fifty-nine homicides that year out of a population of about seventy thousand, and one of the highest disappearance rates in the country (141).

Reading how dangerous the municipality became, the alarming amount of murders, and the high amount of disappearance rates in the country, shows how involved the government is with its own people. The fact that these statistics have even happened to this magnitude, shows how the government is doing. A good, stable, government, would take action and do something about it before the issue could raise to such an alarming rate; an unstable, failing one, would do nothing to help its own people as this one has done. Likewise, another instance of a failing government is when Markham adds, "This never meant anything good for poor farmers like the Flores family, whom the government often suspected of being guerrillas" (12). Reading that the government suspects poor, innocent farmers like the Flores family to be guerrillas, really paints a picture of how the government deals with its own issues. Instead of recognizing the issues it has and fixing them, this government is instead suspecting its own people to be the problem. Rather than trying to help raise its own people out of poverty and bad times, the government is instead putting the blame on them and suspecting them of things they never have done. One last piece of evidence of a failing government is when the author remarks, "But in the Northern Triangle—Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador—a 'better life,' for many, means a life where they are not afraid of being killed"

Essay Question explicitly stated inside the Introduction (as provided in the topic)

Address the audience and writing situation in the topic

Provides background that this argument comes from book

Thesis statement serves and answer to the Essay Question and placed in last sentence.

Starts paragraph with a good "signpost" transition: Topic/Transition/Linking Sentence

1st Secondary Support
with well-sandwiched
quote
Before the Quote
--clarify the context
--prep the reader for
what the quote will show
After the quote
--clarify how this quote
works as evidence to
support your point

2<sup>nd</sup> Secondary Support

with a well-sandwiched quote

3<sup>rd</sup> Secondary Support

(Markham xvii). Upon reading this quote, one can see where the issue is. In these Central American countries, their "better life," is where they aren't afraid of being murdered (Markham xvii). Any stable, strong government would not have their people afraid like this. Only a failing government would fail to help keep its citizens safe (whether it be from other countries, local gangs, etc.). That's why a lot of Central Americans immigrate to the United States. In their home country, most Central Americans are not safe, they do not feel safe, and they aren't being helped by their own government: it's no wonder why so many Central Americans seek to enter the United States.

with a well-sandwiched quote

Last section ties together quotes and connects them to the thesis. (Not always necessary)

## 2nd Example

By now you have probably heard of America being the land of the free, the ideal place for immigrants. Hundreds and thousands of people flee the Northern triangle every year--seeking a better life, risking their lives for the chance of having something better. Parents go as far as to let their children leave unaccompanied so that they can maybe have a better chance at life. Why do these immigrants from Central America come to the United States? In Far Away Brothers, Markham sheds some light on some of the complex reasons as to why people migrate to the United States.

One of the biggest reasons as to why people seek asylum is because of the extreme violence. As Markham describes, gangs have taken over El Salvador and brought violence to the country: "Gang violence had spread throughout El Salvador like an invasive bloom" (18). It is this widespread violence that terrifies people and motivates them to leave. Signs of this violence are all around the Flores family who the book follows: "Around there region, even in their own town people were shot and left in the bushes, their corpses half rotten by the time they were found" (25-26). People are too scared to leave their house, not even being able to leave to get groceries. Tired of living in fear that something will happen to them or their kids, people will flee the country in search for a better life. The twins in the book, in fact, become the target of death threats from their uncle, and it is those threats that cause them to leave: "My uncle wanted to kill me" (84). They feared their own family, they became so violent it left the Flores twins wondering if they would even make it.

Opening missing sense of Writing Situation and audience Essay Question explicitly stated in introduction Thesis as answer to Essay Question stated in last sentence of introduction

Good "signpost" transition

1<sup>st</sup> Secondary Support --well-sandwiched quote

2<sup>nd</sup> Secondary Support --really well-sandwiched quote

3<sup>rd</sup> Secondary Support
--well-sandwiched quote
Better quote possible to
show threat from uncle