

## Building the Body of Your Essay: Evidence and Context for Your Ethnographic Writing

### Research Site and Research Question(s):

### Focus Statement:

**Body Sections:** advance your claim/controlling idea and your thinking in the context of:

- Primary data from your fieldnotes, providing examples, evidence, data for your claim.
- Secondary academic and theoretical sources that situate your discussion within the context of a larger academic conversation and make clear that your descriptions, thoughts and feelings, and analyses are well-informed.

**Body Section 1** – (should correspond to a section of your focus statement) –

What examples, evidence, and support will you use?

- What do you have to say? How will you make the case that your claim/argument/interpretation/analysis is credible and valid?
- What primary data will you use? What do you have to say about these examples? How do these examples connect to this part of your controlling idea?
- What quotes/paraphrases, examples, theoretical grounding will you use from your secondary source materials? What do you have to say about each one of those?
- What brings all of these things together as a cohesive section of your essay?
- How will you transition to the next section?

**Body Section 2** – (should correspond to a section of your focus statement) –

What examples, evidence, and support will you use?

- What do you have to say? How will you make the case that your claim/argument/interpretation/analysis is credible and valid?

- What primary data will you use? What do you have to say about these examples? How do these examples connect to this part of your controlling idea?
- What quotes/paraphrases, examples, theoretical grounding will you use from your secondary source materials? What do you have to say about each one of those?
- What brings all of these things together as a cohesive section of your essay?
- How will you transition to the next section?

**Body Section 3** – (should correspond to a section of your focus statement) –  
What examples, evidence, and support will you use?

- What do you have to say? How will you make the case that your claim/argument/interpretation/analysis is credible and valid?
- What primary data will you use? What do you have to say about these examples? How do these examples connect to this part of your controlling idea?
- What quotes/paraphrases, examples, theoretical grounding will you use from your secondary source materials? What do you have to say about each one of those?
- What brings all of these things together as a cohesive section of your essay?
- How will you transition to your conclusion?

**Are you prepared to complete each of these sections with the materials you have? If not, what additional research do you need to conduct? What additional materials do you need to find?**