

This doc will help you organize your ideas in order to write one (or more) paragraphs about the ethics of human- and animal- rights, the idea of “human superiority,” and ultimately the value of life. Complete as much as you can during class time today.

**PROMPT SELECTED:**

“Should animals have human rights?”

Now, explore that prompt using evidence and supporting details in the chart below →→→

**TOPIC : human and non-human rights**

<p><b>Big Ideas (1 - 5 words)</b></p> <p><i>[use your own, or refer to the Big Ideas Bank at the end of this doc for possible ideas]</i></p>	<p><b>Explain Your Big Idea With Supporting Details</b></p> <p>- <b>tell me more</b> about the Big Idea - one or two details per Big Idea (yellow)</p>	<p><b>Evidence</b></p> <p>- “quote” (from your film note-taking packet, re-watch film, re-read article) - specific statements from article, film, etc.</p>
<p><b>Example:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Bagels vs. Donuts</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Example:</b></p> <p>-Both are round breakfast items, and therefore worthy of nutritional comparison</p> <p>-Their fat- and carbohydrate-contents are drastically different</p> <p>-There is a “deliciousness” factor that makes donuts more desirable</p>	<p><b>Example:</b></p> <p>-As Professor Dewey Spanglecakes wrote, “It is not a question of quantity but rather of <u>quality</u>.”</p> <p>-The World Health Organization states that <u>no more than 5%</u> of our daily caloric intake should be sugars.</p> <p>-As Homer Simpson said, “Donuts... Is there anything they <u>can't</u> do?”</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>They should have human rights</b></li> </ul> <p>(ARGUMENT FOR THE EQUAL RIGHTS OF HUMANS &amp; ANIMALS)</p>	<p><b>Supporting detail #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humans are animals too, therefore, there is no morally relevant difference between them.</li> </ul> <p><b>Supporting detail #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals function in their own societies the same as humans</li> </ul>	<p><b>Evidence #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The great philosopher, Charles Darwin states, “There is no fundamental difference between man and the higher mammals in their mental faculties” and that all the differences are “of degree, not of kind”.</li> </ul> <p><b>Evidence #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For example, elephants can create art, prairie dogs have a language, and termites make buildings.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>They shouldn't have rights</b></li> </ul> <p>(ARGUMENT FOR THE EQUAL RIGHTS OF HUMANS &amp; ANIMALS)</p>	<p><b>Supporting detail #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They don't have feeling</li> </ul> <p><b>Supporting detail #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They aren't as intelligent as humans.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Evidence #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Philosopher, Rene Descartes, once stated, “animals are mere machines but man stands alone”.</li> </ul> <p><b>Evidence #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They did not get as far as to create</li> </ul>

ANIMALS)		the technology that helped us build our advanced society.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>They should have their own rights</b></li> </ul> <p>(ARGUMENT AGAINST THE EQUAL RIGHTS OF HUMANS &amp; ANIMALS)</p>	<p><b>Supporting detail #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They wouldn't know how to function in a human society</li> </ul> <p><b>Supporting detail #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They couldn't fend for themselves in the human society</li> </ul>	<p><b>Evidence #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They could kill humans and destroy private property because they wouldn't know any better.</li> </ul> <p><b>Evidence #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Born in captivity don't know how to fend for themselves because they have been taken care of their entire lives. Other wild animals wouldn't be able to pay taxes or go to a job.</li> </ul>

**THESIS** : Please write this *after* you fill out the chart

**BIG IDEAS BANK** [These are a few ideas; please insert your own!]

The need to eat  
 Consciousness  
 Suffering  
 Human “superiority” vs. equality  
 The right to live, a.k.a. protection from death

**ARCHIVE OF RESOURCES**

[Link](#) to *The Superior Human?* Film by Sam McAnallen  
[Link](#) to “No, Animals Don’t Have Rights” article by Damon Linker  
[Link](#) to Quote Bank

**“PUSH” SOURCES**

[Link](#) to the BBC’s “Animal Rights Debate”  
[Link](#) to “Why Animals Shouldn’t Have Human Rights” by Russell Paul La Valle, *Hamilton Spectator*  
[Link](#) to Jo Hamilton’s anti-meat-industry paintings