

FILLED BOOK REPORT OUTLINE SAMPLE

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

This is an OUTLINE format showing structure—not a complete essay

Student Name: [Your Name]

Book Title: Charlotte's Web

Author: E.B. White

Due Date: [Date]

Target Length: 500 words (Middle School)

I. INTRODUCTION (75 words = 15%)

A. Hook:

Have you ever had a friend who would do anything for you?

B. Book Details:

- Title: Charlotte's Web
- Author: E.B. White
- Year Published: 1952
- Genre: Children's Fiction/Fantasy

C. Thesis Statement:

Through Charlotte's selfless sacrifice, E.B. White demonstrates that true friendship transcends differences and creates lasting impact beyond individual lives.

II. PLOT SUMMARY (110 words = 22%)

A. Beginning:

- Initial situation: Wilbur is born as runt pig, saved by Fern

- Main characters: Wilbur (pig), Charlotte (spider), Fern (girl)
- Problem: Wilbur sold to uncle's farm, faces being killed for meat

B. Middle:

- Complication #1: Wilbur learns he'll be slaughtered
- Complication #2: Charlotte promises to save him
- Tension: Charlotte weaves words ("SOME PIG," "TERRIFIC") in web to make Wilbur famous

C. End:

- Climax: Wilbur wins prize at fair, ensuring his survival
- Resolution: Charlotte dies after laying eggs
- Outcome: Charlotte's children continue friendship with Wilbur

III. CHARACTER ANALYSIS (140 words = 28%)

A. Main Character - Wilbur:

- Personality: Innocent, emotional, dependent → becomes grateful and mature
- Motivation: Wants to survive and keep his friend
- Character arc: Starts scared and helpless; learns meaning of true friendship through Charlotte's sacrifice
- Theme connection: Represents the recipient of selfless love

B. Main Character - Charlotte:

- Personality: Wise, resourceful, compassionate

- Motivation: Saves Wilbur because "a life is a life" regardless of species
- Character arc: Remains constant in loyalty; weakens physically but grows in impact
- Theme connection: Embodies selfless friendship and sacrifice

C. Supporting Character - Templeton:

- Role: Selfish rat who helps only when bribed
- Significance: Contrasts with Charlotte's selflessness, showing different relationship types

IV. THEME DISCUSSION (140 words = 28%)

A. Theme #1: True friendship requires sacrifice

- Evidence: "After all, what's a life, anyway? We're born, we live a little while, we die" (p. 164)
- Explanation: Charlotte gives her life energy to save Wilbur, expecting nothing in return. This shows friendship as action, not just feeling.
- Connection: Supports thesis about friendship transcending self-interest

B. Theme #2: Differences don't prevent deep connection

- Evidence: Spider and pig become best friends despite natural food chain
- Explanation: Charlotte sees Wilbur's worth beyond species. Their friendship crosses boundaries society says shouldn't be crossed.
- Connection: Proves thesis that real friendship transcends differences

C. Theme #3: Impact outlasts individual lives

- Evidence: Charlotte's children continue the friendship; Wilbur never forgets her
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Explanation: Though Charlotte dies, her influence remains through legacy and memory

- Connection: Shows friendship's "lasting impact beyond individual lives" (thesis)

V. CONCLUSION (35 words = 7%)

A. Summary:

Charlotte's sacrifice, Wilbur's transformation, and their unlikely bond prove White's message about friendship's power.

B. Significance:

The story teaches readers that true friends act selflessly and create lasting change.

C. Final Thought:

Charlotte may die, but her friendship never does—it lives in Wilbur's heart and her children's webs.

WORD COUNT BREAKDOWN

Section	Target %	Target Words	Actual Words
Introduction	15%	75	75 ✓
Plot Summary	22%	110	110 ✓
Character Analysis	28%	140	140 ✓
Theme Discussion	28%	140	140 ✓
Conclusion	7%	35	35 ✓
TOTAL	100%	500	500 ✓

NOTES FOR WRITING

When turning this outline into your essay:

- Expand each bullet into full sentences
- Add transition words between sections
- Include all page numbers with quotes
- Write in present tense
- Keep analysis focus (not just plot retelling)

This outline took 30 minutes to create but will save 2+ hours during drafting because everything is organized and planned.

2025 | Use this structure for any book—just replace content with your book's details

