This is an example of an outline for your research essay demonstrating: two thesis sentences, multiple topic sentences, a complete introduction, and a complete paragraph 2. This outline is meant to give you a brief guideline for structure. You will determine how many paragraphs is appropriate for you, and to what depth you will go into each part of your essay. Explanations can be found in “Palette of an outline for essay 3.”

**Introduction:**
Truman Capote introduced a new form of writing in his creative non-fiction piece *In Cold Blood.* The book reads like a novel. It is shaped in a writerly manner that pulls the reader forward. Yet it is an actual depiction of true events. The first and second section of the book seem to make Dick and Perry more attractive characters. By the last two sections the feel of the book is different. This essay uses close readings to consider ways in which treatment of characters in Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood* creates a sense of turn of plot.

**Thesis one:**
- thesis example: This essay uses close readings to consider ways in which treatment of characters in Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood* creates a sense of turn of plot.

**Paragraph two:**
Close reading keeps abstract ideas knit into the text from which those ideas originated. In Hugh Holman’s *A Handbook to Literature* he describes close reading as thoughtful consideration of a passage of text for the purpose of keeping a discussion located in specifics of that text, rather than in generalities (103). This essay looks at specific sections of where tone of description changes in relation to Dick and Perry. By looking at specific passages, rather than generalities, this essay will keep a razor-sharp focus on what the text is actually doing.

**Topic Sentence:** In sections I and II of *In Cold Blood* the characters of Dick and Perry are presented as nuanced and human.

**Topic Sentence:** One pull of this book on a reader is that the horrific actions of Dick and Perry are set in a framework of subtly-drawn characters.

**Topic Sentence:** The tone for a reader’s perception of Dick and Perry changes in sections III and IV.

**Topic Sentence:** This change is tone creates a sense of turn of plot as the characters seem more central to this book than plot twists.

**Thesis two:**
- thesis variation example: Close readings demonstrate the change in
tone, from the first half to the second, in Capote’s *In Cold Blood* that creates the sensation of a plot turn.

**Conclusion:**
Close readings demonstrate the change in tone, from the first half to the second, in Capote’s *In Cold Blood* that creates the sensation of a plot turn.

**Works Cited**