

Outlines

Outlines are a good way to organize thoughts. Prewriting begins with researching the assigned topic. Forming a working thesis statement guides the outline by providing points for each body paragraph. Filling in a sample outline creates the basis for an organized paper.

Title

I. Introductory Paragraph

- A. Introduce topic – if work of literature, name both the work and the author
- B. More information on the topic or state side in an argumentative paper
- C. Use several more sentences to explain or narrow topic
- D. Thesis statement-lists at least 3 points to develop for the body paragraphs

II. Body Paragraph One

- A. Topic sentence—should relate to 1st point in thesis statement
- B. Provide support
 1. Research – quotes or paraphrases if required
 2. Facts, statistics, examples, etc.

III. Body Paragraph Two

- A. Topic sentence—should relate to 2nd point
- B. Provide support
 1. Research – quotes or paraphrases if required
 2. Facts, statistics, examples, etc.

III. Body Paragraph Three

- A. Topic sentence—should relate 3rd point
- B. Provide support
 1. Research – quotes or paraphrases if required
 2. Facts, statistics, examples, etc.

IV. Conclusion

- A. Restate thesis, but not word for word
- B. Summarize information from body paragraphs
- C. If needed, a final appeal