

## Outline Template

This is a template to help you on the first step towards making a formal outline. Adjust for how many body paragraphs you decide to include. **Please note:** If your instructor has asked you to create a formal outline, you are not going to turn in this template. This template is designed to help you generate and organize the ideas you can then put into a formal outline.

**THESIS:** *What do you want to convince your reader of? Is this an arguable assertion? Is this based on the reading? Can one disagree?*

### PARAGRAPH 1:

**TOPIC SENTENCE (Point/Topic):** *What is an arguable point I can make to prove my thesis?*

**SUPPORT (Information/Evidence):** *What examples and quotes in the reading can I use to prove the claim in my topic sentence? Do I want to also include real life examples or research to strengthen my claim?*

**RELEVANCE (Explanation/Analysis):** *Why do I think this is important? What can be learned from this? What are the implications? Outcomes? Possible interpretations or deeper meaning?*

### PARAGRAPH 2:

**TOPIC SENTENCE (Point/Topic):** *What is another arguable point I can make to prove my thesis? How can I smoothly transition from the point I made before?*

**SUPPORT (Information/Evidence):** *What examples and quotes in the reading can I use to prove the claim in my topic sentence? Do I want to also include real life examples or research to strengthen my claim?*

**RELEVANCE (Explanation/Analysis):** *Why do I think this is important? What can be learned from this? What are the implications? Outcomes? Possible interpretations or deeper meaning?*

### **PARAGRAPH 3:**

**TOPIC SENTENCE (Point/Topic):** *What is another arguable point I can make to prove my thesis? How can I smoothly transition from the point I made before?*

**SUPPORT (Information/Evidence):** *What examples and quotes in the reading can I use to prove the claim in my topic sentence? Do I want to also include real life examples or research to strengthen my claim?*

**RELEVANCE (Explanation/Analysis):** *Why do I think this is important? What can be learned from this? What are the implications? Outcomes? Possible interpretations or deeper meaning?*

### **PARAGRAPH 4:**

**TOPIC SENTENCE (Point/Topic):** *What is another arguable point I can make to prove my thesis? How can I smoothly transition from the point I made before?*

**SUPPORT (Information/Evidence):** *What examples and quotes in the reading can I use to prove the claim in my topic sentence? Do I want to also include real life examples or research to strengthen my claim?*

**RELEVANCE (Explanation/Analysis):** *Why do I think this is important? What can be learned from this? What are the implications? Outcomes? Possible interpretations or deeper meaning?*

### **CONCLUSION:**

*How can I end the essay on a strong note? What would be a good “so what?” that explains: So what can we learn from this? So what is the larger significance or impact?*