

OUTLINE FORMAT: Drafting Your Research Paper

1) Write an outline. This can later help you organize your research paper. Your outline should be formatted as shown below:

Working Title of Your Paper:

I) Introduction a) Thesis statement:
b) General information about the research with follows: .

II) First topic, which supports thesis statement

- a) First supporting information or detail
- b) Second supporting information or detail
- c) Third supporting information or detail
- d) Etc.

III) Second topic, which supports thesis statement

- a) First supporting information or detail
- b) Second supporting information or detail
- c) Third supporting information or detail
- d) Etc.

IV) Third topic, which supports thesis statement

- a) First supporting information or detail
- b) Second supporting information or detail
- c) Third supporting information or detail
- d) Etc.

V) Conclusion

- a) Summarizes research
- b) May include personal opinion and/or observations
- c) Ends with a strong statement

HAND OUT#

How to Compose a Thesis Statement

Now that you have decided, at least tentatively, what information you plan to present in your research paper, you are ready to write your thesis statement.

The thesis statement tells the reader what the essay will be about, and what point you, the author, will be making. You know what the essay will be about. That was your topic.

Now you must look at your outline or diagram and decide what point you will be making. What do the main ideas and supporting ideas that you listed say about your topic?

Your thesis statement will have two parts. Together they form one declarative statement:

The first part begins the sentences and states the topic:	The second part finishes the sentences and states the point of the essay:
Social issues that affect high school students	have always been the ones that hit closest to home, such as civil rights, the possibility of a military draft and police brutality.
If society was able to better understand the homeless, there would be much more tolerance towards them.	In order for our society to accept the homeless, they need to understand the definition and what leads to homelessness, what kinds of prejudice are expressed, and what they can do to help the homeless in their area.
Homeless Americans have many hardships to overcome, but the most significant obstacle they face is overcoming the hate violence they are faced with.	Violence targeted towards the homeless in the United States by teenagers can be divided into three main classes; the causes of the attacks, the attacks themselves, and the effects of the attacks.

Once you have formulated a thesis statement that fits this pattern and with which you are comfortable, you are ready to continue.

Try out several versions of your thesis statement here:

state your topic here	+	state your point here (be sure to use a verb!)
	+	

Outline Working Title (*optional here. You may want to wait until after your first draft)

If you have decided on a title, or have a working title, write it here:

Introductory Paragraph

What do I need to say to set up my thesis? _____

Thesis Statement (usually including a mention of the main points to come) =

•List your main points here:

⇒ _____

⇒ _____

⇒ _____

Write a working (in progress) thesis statement here:

_____ + _____

Identify your topic here

state your point or argument here

Transition (you don't have to write these out now but you should know what they'd roughly be)

Reason #1 = _____

example + explication of how it supports topic sentence

Concluding sentence on how (all) the example(s) support thesis

Transition

Reason #2 = _____

example + explication of how it supports topic sentence

Concluding sentence on how (all) the example(s) support thesis

Transition

Reason #3 = _____

example + explication of how it supports topic sentence

Concluding sentence on how (all) the example(s) support thesis

Transition

Reason #4 = _____

example + explication of how it supports topic sentence

Concluding sentence on how (all) the example(s) support thesis

Transition

Concluding Paragraph

sum up what X number of reasons have illustrated re: thesis

some thoughts on the implications of what you've just said or shown

Research Title: _____

Thesis Statement: _____

I. **Introduction** (Must be a long paragraph-will state purpose of paper, thesis, and subtopics)

II. **Subtopic 1:** _____

A. Subpoint 1: _____

B. Subpoint 2: _____

C. Subpoint 3: _____

III. **Subtopic 2:** _____

A. Subpoint 1: _____

B. Subpoint 2: _____

C. Subpoint 3: _____

IV. **Subtopic 3:** _____

A. Subpoint 1: _____

B. Subpoint 2: _____

C. Subpoint 3: _____

V. Subtopic 4: _____

A. Subpoint 1: _____

B. Subpoint 2: _____

C. Subpoint 3: _____

VI. **Conclusion:** (Must be a long paragraph, restating thesis and subtopics and reiterating important points.)

Understanding Autism

I. There are many misconceptions surrounding autism such as the cause, the actions of those who are autistic, and ways to interact productively in society.

II. Misconceptions about the cause of autism

A. Autism is caused by "refrigerator parents"

Autism is a neurological disorder

It can not be attained by behavior

B. Autism is only present in white, middle class families

Autism can affect any race

Social class has nothing to do with autism

C. Autism is a very rare disease

1. "Autism is more common than Down's syndrome, childhood cancer, cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis" (C4)

2. "Autism affects 1 in every 166 children..." (C5)

III. Misconceptions about the actions of autistic individuals

A. All autistic individuals are the same

1. Autism is a spectrum disorder

a.) It varies from person to person

b.) Some people have severe symptoms and some have mild symptoms

2. "Children with autism are withdrawn, avoid eye contact, engage in self-injurious behavior, rock, spin objects and lack the ability to form emotional attachments" (C2)

a.) Each individual has different qualities that qualify them as autistic, they may have some of these qualities, or all of them

b.) The medical qualifications that define autism have 3 core symptoms

i. "Defective social or personal relatedness behaviors

ii. Language, or more broadly, communication difficulties

iii. Play or preferred activities, which are characterized by preoccupations having a repetitive or stereotyped quality" (A1)

IV. Misconceptions about interacting with autistic individuals

A. Autistic individuals are extremely smart

1. "At least 2 in 3 children with autism also have mental retardation" (D1)

2. Asperger's Syndrome is an autism spectrum disorder that includes autistic individuals with normal or high intelligence levels

B. Autistic individuals don't care about others

1. Autistic individuals DO care

2. They may show affection in other ways than we do

C. Autistic individuals should be placed away from others because they are dangerous

1. Only a small number of autistic individuals engage in self-injurious behavior

2. Some autistic individuals can overcome their symptoms to be able to live and work productively in society

a) Specialists can work with individuals

i. Speech therapist-helps with speech and communication

ii. Occupational therapist-helps kids carry out daily activities

iii. Motor therapist-helps with motor skills

iv. Physiotherapist-helps with body movement (D4)

***NOTE: The letters and numbers in () are references to the student's research note cards.**