

Basic Essay Outline & Ways to Develop Ideas

Introduction

Begin with an interesting sentence; show the reader how you have narrowed the topic.

Outline ideas which prove the thesis.

PRESENT THESIS HERE

Body - Paragraphs #2, #3, #4.

Topic sentence: the first major statement of support for your thesis.

Restriction: more specific points about the topic sentence.

Illustration: use examples, details, facts, etc. MOVE FROM GENERAL TO SPECIFIC, gradually narrowing the focus.

(create a smooth transition sentence which takes the reader from one paragraph to the next)

Conclusion

Be brief in concluding or summarizing.

Take care not to be repetitious

May pick up on introduction again.

Give a sense of finality.