

Essay Outline Sample [Template]

Introduction

Get the reader's attention by asking a leading question; relay something enticing about the subject in a manner that commands attention. Start with a related quote, alluring description, or narration.

State the thesis, the causes and effects to be discussed; comparison of subject X and subject Y; your position on the issue; your proposal if applicable; and the main points that will develop your argument.

Body

First Point, Assertion, Explanation

Supporting evidence (examples, facts, statistics, quoted authorities, details, reasons, examples)

Supporting evidence

Second explanation

Support

Support

Third explanation

Support

Support

Fourth explanation (continue as above with additional explanations as needed.)

Support

Support

Your proposal (if applicable)

Address opposing viewpoints

Conclusion

Show how explanations (causes) are logical reasons producing the effects discussed; review subject X and subject Y; reiterate your assertion and proposition (if applicable). Reemphasize your thesis in a fresh way, showing how you have achieved your purpose. If you intend to draw to a conclusion about one subject over the other, emphasize that point.

Deal with opposing views unless done above in Section F.

Appeal to the reader to see how you have come to a logical conclusion.

Make a memorable final statement.

Sample Outline

Title "The Benefits of Running"

I. Introduction

Running is becoming an extremely popular sport for all ages. Running is a great form of exercise because it helps people control their weight, develop muscles, and improves mental and physical performance.

II. Body

A. Weight control

1. Aids self-control
2. Burns calories
3. Encourages a healthy diet
4. Suppresses appetite

B. Muscular Development

1. Improves tone
2. Enhances contours
3. Increases strength
4. Improves endurance

C. Psychological well-being

1. Aids sleep
2. Inhibits depression
3. Intensifies vitality

III. Conclusion

Benefits of running make it an excellent exercise. People who want to improve their health should consider running.

Outline Template

Title _____

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

