

Prewriting Strategies: Outline

Have a good idea for your main topic or already created a mind map? Great! Outlining is the next step in writing a more structured and organized paper. Let's take your ideas and create an outline!

Main Topic:

<p>Introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Sentence: _____ _____ Background info: _____ _____ Thesis: _____ _____ _____ 	<p>Sources to Cite:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Body Key Point 1: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Topic Sentence: _____ _____ Supporting Evidence: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> _____ _____ _____ Conclusion and connection to next Paragraph: _____ _____ 	<p>Sources to Cite:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Body Key Point 2: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Topic Sentence: _____ _____ Supporting Evidence: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> _____ _____ _____ Conclusion and connection to next Paragraph: _____ _____ 	<p>Sources to Cite:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

<p>Body Key Point 3: _____</p> <p>1. Topic Sentence: _____ _____</p> <p>2. Supporting Evidence: 2.1. 2.2. 2.3.</p> <p>3. Conclusion: _____ _____</p>	<p>Sources to Cite: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>
<p>Conclusion</p> <p>1. Restate your thesis in a new way: _____ _____</p> <p>2. Point to your papers importance: _____ _____</p> <p>3. Closing: _____ _____</p>	<p>Sources to Cite: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>

Tips:

- If you aren't sure of your main topic, try to do some brainstorming or clustering using the *Prewriting Strategies: Brainstorming with Mind Mapping* worksheet with your CLAS tutor.
- Sometimes the best place to start is with the body paragraphs. Writing an introduction and conclusion once you have strong body paragraphs completed might be easier.
- If you don't understand all the different parts of the paper, make sure to check out the CLAS handouts for each topic!