Outline Template

I. Introduction

• First sentence: “hook” or attention-getter—something that will interest the reader in your topic
• Sentences 2-5: begin to narrow your topic and provide more detail
• Thesis statement: in one sentence, outline the main points of your paper: point 1, point 2, point 3 (could be more or fewer than 3 points)

II. Point 1

• First sentence: introduce the point of the paragraph
• Sentences 2-5: provide more information about/support for the point
• Conclusion of the paragraph and transition sentence: complete the point and try to tie it to the next paragraph

III. Point 2

• First sentence: Introduce the point of the paragraph and transition from the previous paragraph
• Sentences 2-5: provide more information about/support for the point
• Conclusion of the paragraph and transition sentence: complete the point and try to tie it to the next paragraph

IV. Point 3

• First sentence: Introduce the point of the paragraph and transition from the previous paragraph
• Sentences 2-5: provide more information about/support for the point
• Conclusion of the paragraph and transition sentence: complete the point and try to tie it to the next paragraph

V. Conclusion

• Restate your thesis: repeat the points you have addressed in your paper
• Sentences 2-5: avoid introducing new material; mention any realizations or next steps, based on your paper
• Conclusion sentence: create a lasting impression to leave the audience with, so they remember your paper

Note: This outline serves as a general guide. It may not be appropriate for all writing assignments. Different writing assignments may require more or fewer paragraphs and more or fewer sentences within paragraphs.