

**RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Place ALL card numbers on this outline, erasing when you move cards, place all unused card numbers at the end. Smooth transitions are the key to convincing people you are a good writer.

**Introduction** – do last – do NOT use lengthy explanations, use common but professional language – little cited info Unless quoting someone, there should be little to cite because all technical explanation is in Body. 2 to 3 college length paragraphs.

- 1. Snappy intro to snag reader \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Intro topic \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. Thesis statement intro in 1Ai, 1Aii, or 1Aiii \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. Don't forget tech term definitions \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. Keep readers hooked \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Here's how I am going to prove it \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. Body 3 intro \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. Body 2 intro \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. Body 1 intro \_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. Transition into Body 1 from intro to Body 1 above \_\_\_\_\_

**Body 1** – most convincing argument & easiest to understand – get them nodding with you HERE! Here is where citation is most prominent – CITE EVERYTHING!!! It makes you look smarter. At least 3 college length paragraphs.

- 2. Transition from Introduction \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. Transition to Body 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Body 2** – longest but also convincing and easy to understand – can be more technical but not too foreign to readers Here is where citation is most prominent – CITE EVERYTHING!!! It makes you look smarter. At least 3 college length paragraphs.

- 3. Intro to Body 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. Transition to Body 3 \_\_\_\_\_

**Body 3** – now that they agree with you, most technical or hardest to convince them about here – NOT too short though!  
Here is where citation is most prominent – CITE EVERYTHING!!! It makes you look smarter.  
At least 3 college length paragraphs.

- 4. Intro to Body 3 \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. Transition to Conclusion \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion** – do last – NO NEW INFO!!! Unless quoting someone, there should not be anything to cite  
Rephrase previous Body info, shorten, and remind. Common but professional language here.  
Keep it short but don't skimp!!! 2 college length paragraphs max.

- 5. In Conclusion \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Restate thesis
  - b. Transition from Body 3, go backwards from 3 to 2 to 1 – restate proof \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Conclude \_\_\_\_\_

NOW GO BACK AND MAKE SURE THERE ARE TRANSITIONS BETWEEN ALL is, iis, AND iiis, AS WELL AS BETWEEN ALL as, bs, AND cs THROUGHOUT THE PAPER. GOOD FLOW MAKES PEOPLE THINK YOU ARE A GOOD WRITER.

Unused card numbers here: