

## Outline of an Essay

### I. Introductory Paragraph

- Hook: something to catch the reader's attention
- Background information about the topic leading to the thesis
- THESIS STATEMENT: the last sentence of the introductory paragraph that states the main idea for the essay and has a predictor.

### II. Body Paragraph #1:

- Begins with a topic sentence that states the main idea of the paragraph and connects back to the thesis statement.
- Supporting sentences in the paragraph explain, expand and/or give examples to support the topic sentence.

### III. Body Paragraph #2:

- Begins with a topic sentence that states the main idea of the paragraph and connects back to the thesis statement.
- Supporting sentences in the paragraph explain, expand and/or give examples to support the topic sentence.

### IV. Body Paragraph #3:

- Begins with a topic sentence that states the main idea of the paragraph and connects back to the thesis statement.
- Supporting sentences in the paragraph explain, expand and/or give examples to support the topic sentence.

### V. Concluding Paragraph: Can do any or all the following:

- Restates the thesis statement in a new way
- Makes a final comment or opinion about the topic
- Offers a solution if the essay has presented an issue that could be solved (Used for an argumentation or opinion essay)