

Research Paper Outline Guidelines

The question you have to answer: ***“Was it necessary to drop the atomic bomb on Japan in order to end World War II?”***

This outline MUST be typed following outline format. Handwritten outlines will not be graded.

In a FULL SENTENCE OUTLINE every heading and subheading must be in a complete sentence.

Create a FULL SENTENCE outline of each body paragraph of your research paper. Extend to THREE LEVELS CONSISTENTLY and INCLUDE PARENTHETICAL REFERENCES in your outline. An outline without appropriate parenthetical references cannot earn higher than a “C” or average grade.

Use the following as a model for your outline. Also refer to the attached outline and the information in your writing packet

WRITE THESIS STATEMENT AT TOP OF PAGE!

- I. Introduction (includes thesis statement) - We'll discuss the specifics of the introduction in class

- II. Strong TOPIC sentence for Body 1 paragraph (one of the supports in your thesis statement)
 - A. Support sentence (relates directly to topic sentence)
 - B. Support sentence (relates directly to Topic sentence)
 1. More (relates to 2)
 2. More (relates to 2)
 3. More (relates to 2)
 - C. Transition sentence to next paragraph (and so on...)

- III. Strong Topic Sentence for Body 2 Paragraph (one of the supports in your thesis statement)
 - A. Support item
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - B. Support Item
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - C. Support item
 - E. Transition to next paragraph

(Of course, you may have your A, B, C, D, etc. items with some having a 1, 2, 3, and some not. It depends on your research. You may even choose to put “a, b, c, d” under the “1, 2, 3” items if you have the information.)

- IV. Strong Topic Sentence for Body 3 Paragraph etc. (similar to II and III)

- V. Conclusion – we'll discuss the conclusion in class