

How an Outline Should Look – E Owens

- A. Introduction - Topic
 - 1. Thesis statement (general statement that the essay will prove)
 - a. 1st main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - b. 2nd main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - c. 3 main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - d. 4th main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
- B. 1st main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - 1. 1st supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
 - b. Example or fact
 - 2. 2nd supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
 - b. Example or fact
- C. 2nd main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - 1. 1st supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
 - b. Example or fact
- D. 3rd main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - 1. 1st supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
 - b. Example or fact
 - 2. 2nd supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
 - b. Example or fact
 - 3. 3rd supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
- E. 4th main idea (supporting detail of thesis)
 - 1. 1st supporting detail of main idea
 - a. Example or fact
- F. Conclusion (summarize key points and restate thesis)

(Use letters and numbers as needed. Each capital letter – BCDE – is a paragraph covering the main idea. These main ideas are the supporting details of the thesis. Each has its own supporting details with examples and facts. Generally, no more than 5 main ideas.)