Outlines are a good way to organize thoughts. Prewriting begins with researching the assigned topic. Forming a working thesis statement guides the outline by providing points for each body paragraph. Filling in a sample outline creates the basis for an organized paper.

**Title**

I. Introductory Paragraph
   A. Introduce topic – if work of literature, name both the work and the author
   B. More information on the topic or state side in an argumentative paper
   C. Use several more sentences to explain or narrow topic
   D. Thesis statement-lists at least 3 points to develop for the body paragraphs

II. Body Paragraph One
    A. Topic sentence—should relate to 1st point in thesis statement
    B. Provide support
       1. Research – quotes or paraphrases if required
       2. Facts, statistics, examples, etc.

III. Body Paragraph Two
     A. Topic sentence—should relate to 2nd point
     B. Provide support
        1. Research – quotes or paraphrases if required
        2. Facts, statistics, examples, etc.

III. Body Paragraph Three
     A. Topic sentence—should relate 3rd point
     B. Provide support
        1. Research – quotes or paraphrases if required
        2. Facts, statistics, examples, etc.

IV. Conclusion
    A. Restate thesis, but not word for word
    B. Summarize information from body paragraphs
    C. If needed, a final appeal

Revised February 8, 2018