**Writing a Well-Organized Paper**

I also suggest saving drafts as you go

* History planning ISU Draft 1
* History planning ISU Draft 2
* History planning ISU Draft 3
* History rough draft ISU 1
* History rough draft ISU 2
* Etc.
* This avoids the need to consistently print, but then you have it should you need to go back or need to prove your progress and ideas should plagiarism be questioned.

When working on your outline you can set it up as follows… This is not mandatory but what I have always used and found extremely helpful

**PARAGRAPH 1: INTRODUCTION**

Topic Sentence: Here you will introduce your topic generally. You want a sentence that really hooks the reader in. You may have a few follow up sentences to give background to the topic before stating your thesis.

Thesis Statement: Just type it out with this sub-heading, then when you feel that your planning is complete, you can simply delete the sub-headings and your introductory paragraph is ready to go.

Sub topic one: Colour coding also helps as you want the first point you mention in your introduction, to also be the first body paragraph, and the first concluded topic. Using colour helps as you want to ensure at the end your strongest point is your last and this helps to make it easy to move things around.

Sub topic two: Typically you ‘hide’ what you see as your weakest argument, evidence, or writing in the middle. You start off good, go down a bit, and wow your reader with your conclusion.

Sub topic three: Your best final – WOW they are amazing point.

**PARAGRAPH 2: TOPIC #1 [State topic to stay organized]**

Intro Sentence(s): Introduce your first topic. Remember to always refer back to your thesis as it is the foundation of your paper/essay and everything should link back to that idea and aim to prove your point. Your explanation is this link back to the thesis.

Evidence 1 [Point, proof, and explanation]: Three points if your goal for all of your body paragraphs. Including your sources as you go helps a lot too, saves work later to determine where things came from.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Evidence 2 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

Evidence 3 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

Concluding Sentence/transition to next point:

**PARAGRAPH 3: TOPIC #2 [State topic to stay organized]**

Example Thesis: Women were essential to Canada being victorious in World War Two.

Example Topic: Without the support of women farming, Canada would not have won World War Two.

Intro Sentence(s): Farming is important.

Evidence 1 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

-Feeding soldiers

-www.website.com or page 4 in notes

-Kept them fed and healthy

Evidence 2 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

-Feeding community

-page 6 of notes

-Able to support war effort and supply more to soldiers

Evidence 3 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

-Limit needs for rations

-page 3 of notes

-Able to supply more food to family and as a result can make rations available to others in need and put more $ into war effort

Concluding Sentence/transition to next point:

**PARAGRAPH 4: TOPIC #3 [State topic to stay organized]**

Intro Sentence(s):

Evidence 1 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

Evidence 2 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

Evidence 3 [Point, proof, and explanation]:

Concluding Sentence/transition to next point:

**PARAGRAPH 3: CONCLUSION**

A conclusion should always be re-worded from the introduction. Never copy and paste your introduction, although you are saying the same things – say them in a new or different way.

Restate thesis: This is harder to re-word, but try.

Restate three main points: This time, they do not all necessarily need their own sentence.

Connect your ideas to a bigger picture: why is this so important to history, society, or the world?

I am more than willing to look at and discuss outlines or ideas prior to the due date. I actually suggest it. This will help avoid any serious issues with your content.

If you have not had your thesis looked at (or were asked to see me) please do this ASAP as you are falling behind. Remember that there is 10% of your ISU mark dedicated to the process.

Think this layout will help? See **Students Common – Schad** or create your own that works best for you. If you take the student common version, remember to save to your own drive!

1. Even if it’s just the URL and you can work with them later. You do not want to use *Ibid.* until you are 100% done your paper should any sourcing information move around. Footnotes or endnotes are both acceptable, however footnotes are sometimes easier to work with. These should be in times new roman, but at the default notes font of ten. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)