**Outlining Readings: Interactive Exercise 2**

Drag the main points and support into the correct positions in the outline.

**Passage #1** (from Nicholas Kristof, “Our Gas Guzzlers, Our Lives”)

My win-a-trip journey with a student and a teacher has taken us to Burundi, which the World Bank’s latest report shows to be the poorest country in the world. People in Burundi have an annual average income of $100, nearly one child in five dies before the age of five, and life expectancy is 45.

Outline:

Main Idea: I. Burundi: poorest country in world

A. Income = $300/yr  
B. 1 child/5 dies B4 five  
C. Life expectancy = 45

**Passage #2** (Jonathan Rauch, “Will Frankenfood Save the Planet?”)

Organic farming . . . uses no artificial fertilizer, but it does use a lot of manure, which can pollute water and contaminate food. Traditional farmers may use less herbicide, but they also do more ploughing, with all the ensuing environmental complications. Low-input agriculture uses fewer chemicals but more land. The point is not that farming is an environmental crime, but that there is no escaping the pressure it puts on the planet.

Outline:

Main Idea: I. Farming (various types) > pressure on planet

1. Organic farming  
   1. manure > water/food pollution
2. Traditional farmers  
   1. ploughing > env. problems
3. Low-input agriculture   
   1. > more land used

**Passage #3** (from Rachel Carson, “The Obligation to Endure”)

Under primitive agricultural conditions the farmer had few insect problems. These arose with the intensification of agriculture—the devotion of immense acreages to a single crop. Such a system set the stage for explosive increases in specific insect populations. Single-crop farming does not take advantage of the principles by which nature works; it is agriculture as an engineer might conceive it to be. Nature has introduced great variety into the landscape, but man has displayed a passion for simplifying it. Thus he undoes the built-in checks and balances by which nature holds the species within bounds. One important natural check is a limit on the amount of suitable habitat for each species. Obviously, then, an insect that lives on wheat can build up its population to much higher levels on a farm devoted to wheat than on one in which wheat is intermingled with other crops to which the insect is not adapted.

Outline:

Main Idea: I. Single-crop farming > increase in insect pop.

1. S-C not based on natural checks that keep species in bounds
2. Nature = limit on amt. of suitable habit for a species
3. S-C = “engineering”
4. Oversimplification of habitat > fewer checks
5. Wheat-eating insects increase in pop.