Tips for Creating an Outline

Your outline should have three parts—introduction, body, and conclusion. It should be double-spaced.

I. Introduction

In the introduction...

Establish your topic and state your claim.

- II. Body-
 - A. Main point #1
 - 1. Subtopic #1
 - 2. Subtopic #2
 - 3. More if needed
 - B. Main point #2
 - 1. Subtopic #1
 - 2. Subtopic #2
 - 3. More if needed
 - C. Main Point #3
 - 1. Subtopic #1
 - 2. Subtopic #2
 - 3. More if needed

(More main points as needed)

III. Conclusion -

In the conclusion . . .

Restate the claim in a convincing way and leave the reader with something interesting to think about.

In the body . . .

Organize your ideas in order of importance.
Identify the main point of each paragraph with an uppercase letter. Identify each supporting detail with a numeral.

» Tip: Readers tend to remember the last point a writer makes, so make your most important point in the body's final paragraph.