

Name: _____

Period: _____

Research Essay Outline

- I. Introduction
 - Thesis Statement (3rd version) –

- II. Body of Paper – outline the **topic sentence** and **supporting research** for each point you will be covering in the paper, beginning with point #1.
 - a. Point 1 –
 - i. Topic Sentence Idea –

 - ii. Supporting Ideas (bullets, sentences can come later) –

 - iii. Try to connect to next point – **wrap-up idea; plan transition* to next point**

 - b. Point 2 –
 - i. Topic Sentence Idea –

 - ii. Supporting Ideas (bullets, sentences can come later) –

 - iii. Try to connect to next point – **wrap-up idea; plan transition* to next point**

 - c. Point 3 –
 - i. Topic Sentence Idea –

 - ii. Supporting Ideas (bullets, sentences can come later) –

 - iii. Try to connect to next point – **wrap-up idea; plan transition* to next point**

- d. Point 4 –
 - i. Topic Sentence Idea –

 - ii. Supporting Ideas (bullets, sentences can come later) –

 - iii. Try to connect to next point – wrap-up idea; plan transition* to next point

- e. Point 5 –
 - i. Topic Sentence Idea –

 - ii. Supporting Ideas (bullets, sentences can come later) –

 - iii. Try to connect to next point – wrap-up idea; plan concluding remarks**

III. **The opposition's viewpoint** – After you have all your information set up and organized it is important to take the viewpoints of those that oppose your view and try to **disprove** their theories with strong evidence.

- a. Point 1
 - i. Topic sentence idea –

 - ii. Opposition's theory(case/point?) –

 - iii. Evidence to prove it's wrong –

- b. Point 2
 - i. Topic sentence idea –

 - ii. Opposition's theory (case/point?) –

 - iii. Evidence to prove it's wrong –

c. Point 3

i. Topic sentence idea –

ii. Opposition's theory(case/point?) –

iii. Evidence to prove it's wrong –

IV. Conclusion – You are now returning to your own argument/stance

a. Restate Thesis –

b. Restate main points –

c. wrap-up idea; plan concluding remarks**

End with a strong idea or strong statement of truth –

Transitions and Concluding Remarks Cheat Sheet

***Transitions:** ideas can be found online. Useful sites are:

<http://www.smart-words.org/linking-words/transition-words.html>

<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Transitions.html>

<http://larae.net/write/transition.html>

****Concluding remarks**

Effect / Consequence / Result

Some of these transition words (thus, then, accordingly, consequently, therefore, henceforth) are time words that are used to show that after a particular time there was a consequence or an effect.

Note that for and because are placed before the cause/reason. The other devices are placed before the consequences or effects.

as a result	thus	thereupon
under those circumstances	because the	forthwith
in that case	then	accordingly
for this reason	hence	henceforth
in effect	consequently	
for	therefore	

Conclusion / Summary / Restatement

These transition words and phrases conclude, summarize and / or restate ideas, or indicate a final general statement. Also some words (like therefore) from the Effect / Consequence category can be used to summarize.

as can be seen	in brief	Obviously
generally speaking	in essence	Ultimately
in the final analysis	to summarize	Definitely
all things considered	on balance	
as shown above	altogether	
in the long run	overall	
given these points	ordinarily	
as has been noted	usually	
in a word	by and large	
for the most part	to sum up	
after all	on the whole	
in fact	in any event	
in summary	in either case	
in conclusion	all in all	
in short		