

## Notes & Set-Up for Thesis-Outline

**Thesis:** This is the single statement (sentence) that you will be proving across the text of your paper; it must end with a period and include your three focal areas and an opinion

Example: *Having a teen curfew of 10:00pm on the weekdays and 12:00am on the weekends can be both beneficial and detrimental when it comes to teaching teens about responsibility.*

**Topic:** General/Broad Topic {Teen Curfews}

**Limited Topic:** Your choice of one limited thing about your broad topic {Pros and Cons of Teen Curfews}

**Focal Areas:** 1. 1<sup>st</sup> example to support your limited topic {Beneficial}

2. 2<sup>nd</sup> example to support your limited topic {Detrimental}

3. 3<sup>rd</sup> example to support your limited topic {Responsibility}

- I. Introduction to your limited topic {Pros & Cons of Teen Curfews}
  - A. 1<sup>st</sup> example to support your limited topic (Focal Area #1) {Beneficial}
  - B. 2<sup>nd</sup> example to support your limited topic (Focal Area #2) {Detrimental}
  - C. 3<sup>rd</sup> example to support your limited topic (Focal Area #3) {Responsibility}
- II. 1<sup>st</sup> example to support your limited topic (Focal Area #1) {Beneficial}
  - A. Supporting fact #1 or detail #1
  - B. Supporting fact #2 or detail #2
- III. 2<sup>nd</sup> example to support your limited topic (Focal Area #2) {Detrimental}
  - A. Supporting fact #1 or detail #1
  - B. Supporting fact #2 or detail #2
- IV. 3<sup>rd</sup> example to support your limited topic (Focal Area #3) {Responsibility}
  - A. Supporting fact #1 or detail #1
  - B. Supporting fact #2 or detail #2
- V. Conclusion
  - A. Restate (briefly) main point (limited topic)
  - B. Restate (briefly) reasons/examples to support your limited topic
  - C. Strong call to action or express opinion(s)

## SUMMARY

\*NOTICE HOW YOUR FOCAL AREAS BECOME LETTERS “A”, “B”, AND “C” UNDER ROMAN NUMERAL “I.”. NOTICE ALSO HOW LETTER “A” UNDER ROMAN NUMERAL “I.” BECOMES ROMAN NUMERAL “II.”; HOW LETTER “B” UNDER ROMAN NUMERAL “I.” BECOMES ROMAN NUMERAL “III.”; AND HOW LETTER “C” UNDER ROMAN NUMERAL “I.” BECOMES ROMAN NUMERAL “IV.”. **THESE FOCAL AREAS BECOME THE BODY PARAGRAPHS OF YOUR ESSAY. THE ORDER IS WHICH THEY APPEAR IN THE THESIS STATEMENT IS THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY NEED TO APPEAR IN THE OUTLINE AND IN THE PAPER.**

\*YOU CAN HAVE MORE THAN TWO FACTS OR DETAILS UNDER EACH ROMAN NUMERAL; THE MORE, THE BETTER; EACH ONE WILL BE ASSIGNED A NEW LETTER, BUT YOU ALWAYS BEGIN WITH AN “A” UNDER EACH ROMAN NUMERAL.

**\*REMEMBER THAT A PARAGRAPH NEEDS TO HAVE A MINIMUM OF FOUR TO FIVE SENTENCES.**

\*FINALLY, NOTICE HOW EVERY OUTLINE BEGINS WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND ENDS WITH A CONCLUSION. THESE AREAS ARE DIVIDED ACCORDING TO TWO RULES; THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. DUPLICATE RULE = IF YOU HAVE AN “A”, THEN YOU MUST HAVE A “B”. YOU CAN ALSO HAVE A “C” OR A “D”, BUT IF THERE IS AN “A”, THERE MUST ALSO BE A “B”.
2. RULE OF PLURALITY = PLURAL WORDS (i.e. DOGS) MUST BE DIVIDED FURTHER; PLURAL CONCEPTS (i.e. FAMILY...MEANING MORE THAN ONE MEMBER) MUST ALSO BE DIVIDED FURTHER