

Detailed Outline

The purpose of the detailed outline is to provide as much structure to your paper as possible. After you have done research on your topic you need to create an outline of how you will organize your paper. This will help you to organize the research you have already done, see gaps in your research, and also organize writing your paper. It is best to be as specific as possible. If done well this will give you a clear structure for writing your paper.

Sample outline:

Topic: Napoleon's impact on France

Section I: Introduction and Thesis:

The leadership of Napoleon Bonaparte had an overall positive impact on France due to his improvements to French law, the conquests he made in Europe, and the improvements made to the French education and financial systems.

Section II: Background on the rise of Napoleon, his time in power, and eventual downfall.

Section III: Opposing side to thesis: Explanation of negative impact of Napoleonic rule.

- A. Continental System

- B. Censorship

- C. Dictatorship

Section IV: Analysis of Argument

- A. Napoleon's benefit to the government

- 1. Napoleonic code

- 2. Equality before the law

Section V: Napoleon's benefit to France's international standing

- A. Victories for France

- B. Increased power in Europe

Section VI: Napoleon's impact on education

- A. Secondary schools

- B. Created Universities

- C. Scholarships

Section VII: Napoleon's benefit to the economy of France

- A. Fair taxation

- B. Bank of France

- C. Balanced budget

- D. Repaid debts

Section VIII: Conclusion – sum up main points to prove thesis– do not bring up new ideas.