

Reverse Outline

Picking apart your paper to put it back together at its best.

Introduction Paragraph

<p>Hook: Write down how you introduced your first paragraph.</p> <p>Statistic? Quote? Question? Context?</p> <p><i>*Make sure it relates to your main idea</i></p>	
<p>Thesis: Write down your main argument or idea from your first paragraph. If you do not have one, create one on the column to the right.</p>	



Body Paragraphs

Go from paragraph to paragraph and write down the topic sentence and its purpose or how it relates to your Thesis Statement.

	Topic Sentence	Evidence	Purpose
Paragraph 1			
Paragraph 2			
Paragraph 3			

Paragraph 4			
Paragraph 5			
Paragraph 6			



Conclusion

<p>Conclusion: Write down the main argument from your conclusion and how the ideas connect and relate back to your thesis</p>	
--	--

Using the Reverse Outline to Revise

1. Compare the purpose of each paragraph to your main idea/thesis. Each paragraph should play a clear role in support of your thesis.
2. If any paragraphs seem irrelevant or do not connect to your thesis, consider revising or deleting them.
3. Look for paragraphs that may contain too much or too little information during the outlining process. Take the time to re-write or re-organize those paragraphs.
4. Move paragraphs into an effective order. Think critically about the order of your paragraph.
 - Does the organization lead your reader logically through your argument?
 - In what order will it be most effective to present the information and ideas to your reader?
5. Make sure your topic sentences align with your thesis. Go back and compare them to your thesis: does each topic sentence show a clear relationship to the thesis?
6. Check the transitions between paragraphs. Strong topic sentences are often the best transitions. Use your topic sentences to demonstrate the relationship between the ideas in your paragraphs.

Topic Sentence Resources



Sources:

<https://www.crk.umn.edu/sites/crk.umn.edu/files/how-to-make-reverse-outline.pdf>