

EXAMPLE OF A FULL-SENTENCE OUTLINE

(from the [website](#) of Dr. Marceline Thompson-Hayes, Arkansas State University)

I. Global warming is a gradual warming of the Earth from human activities (Union)

- A. It is characterized by a high concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
 - 1. Each year five tons of CO₂ are pumped into the atmosphere.
 - 2. The carbon dioxide traps heat.
 - 3. 1998 set temperature records.
- B. Carbon pollutants also eat a hole in the ozone layer (NOAA).
 - 1. In 1998 this hole set a size record.
 - 2. This allows more ultraviolet radiation to reach Earth.
- C. If this problem is not corrected; we may see disastrous results (National Issues Forums)
 - 1. There could be dramatic climate changes
 - a. There could be drought in the middle of continents
 - b. There could be many severe storms
 - c. There could be rising sea levels that would destroy coastal areas
 - 2. There could be serious health problems
 - a. There could be an increase in skin cancer
 - b. There could be an increase in cataracts
 - c. There could be damaged immune systems

II. The loss of woodlands adds to global warming (Union)

- A. One football-field-sized area of forest is lost every second
- B. Some loss occurs through cutting trees
- C. Burning adds more carbon dioxide form smoke

III. Industrial emissions accelerate global warming (Union)

- A. These account for more than 20 percent of our air pollution
- B. Americans are the worst offenders
 - 1. We use 26 percent of the world's oil
 - 2. We release 26 percent of nitrogen oxides
 - 3. We release 22 percent of carbon dioxide.
- C. There is light on the horizon.
 - 1. The rate of emission is slowing (Dept. of Energy)
 - 2. Companies are uniting to arrest climate change ("New Initiative")

IV. Personal energy consumption magnifies global warming (Union)

- A. Energy consumption is the single largest cause of global warming
 - 1. Fossil fuel use accounts for 90 percent of America's energy consumption
 - 2. Transportation-related energy accounts for half of all air pollution
- B. America is on an energy binge (Myerson)
 - 1. We are using more fuel in our homes
 - a. New homes are much larger
 - B People have more energy-hungry equipment
 - 2. We are using more fuel for transportation
 - a. Commutes are longer
 - b. Vehicle horsepower is increasing
 - c. People are buying gas-guzzlers