Your Topic Goes Here

Your Name

Your University

Abstract

This is a summary of your essay. This paragraph should be in block-paragraph style. This will appear on a page by itself.

Your Topic Goes Here

Start with the attention-grabbing story: Capture your readers’ attention right away with a detailed story, an anecdote about the problem, or another technique. You will explain that if this happened, there must be a problem that should be solved.

Identify the topic: This idea lets your readers know what your paper is about in general terms. Express the purpose: This idea allows readers to understand the purpose of your paper. Establish your credibility: You may have some experience with this topic, and this is your opportunity to tell about it briefly. You may not be an expert, but you have included the ideas of experts in your paper; identify two or three standout sources that lend credibility to the topic.

Emphasize why the topic is important: Few readers will care about a topic unless you make them care. Briefly identify effects and indirect effects that you will develop in the second section. End with your thesis statement. Be clear and concise about your solution and why it will succeed; start with your solution and then identify reasons for why it will work.

**Problem Analysis**

Problem Analysis:This section details the history, causes, and effects of the problem. Offer background information: Historical or background information will put your topic into a broader context. You will detail how and when the problem began and continued to be a problem.

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| **APA Headings** | |
| Level | Format |
| 1 | **Centered, Boldface, Uppercase and Lowercase Headings** |
| 2 | **Left-aligned, Boldface, Uppercase and Lowercase Heading** |
| 3 | **Indented, boldface, lowercase heading with a period.** Begin body text after the period. |
| 4 | ***Indented, boldface, italicized, lowercase heading with a period.*** Begin body text after the period. |
| 5 | *Indented, italicized, lowercase heading with a period.* Begin body text after the period. |

**Method** (Level 1)

**Site of Study** (Level 2)

**Participant Population** (Level 2)

**Teachers.** (Level 3)

**Students.** (Level 3)

**Results** (Level 1)

**Spatial Ability** (Level 2)

**Test one.** (Level 3)

***Teachers with experience.*** (Level 4)

***Teachers in training.*** (Level 4)

**Test two.** (Level 3)

**Kinesthetic Ability** (Level 2)

**Problem Analysis**

Problem Analysis:This section details the history, causes, and effects of the problem. Offer background information: Historical or background information will put your topic into a broader context. You will detail how and when the problem began and continued to be a problem.

Detail causes of the problem: You will identify, explain, and support with research the causes of the problem.

Explain effects of the problem: The negative effects of the problem, including indirect effects, will be explained using research.

Be sure to include a visual, with a title, caption, and source information. See the Week 5 Lecture for more information. Include the visual closest to where you will explain it further or connect it to an idea. An example follows.

Figure 1: No Child Left Behind Act Being Signed into Law, 2002



*Figure 1:* President George W. Bush is flanked by members of Congress and students as he signs the No Child Left Behind Act into law in 2002. Source: Save Education (and GOP Consistency): Dump No Child Left Behind (2010).

As shown in Figure 1, NCLB was signed into law in 2002 and the image above reflects the good intentions that this initiative engendered: the president and smiling members of Congress, including Edward M. Kennedy, a Democrat, and John Boehner, a Republican, along with children in front of the American flag. Despite their best intentions, these tests have not fulfilled the promise of raising the quality of education in our schools, and have instead left a trail of broken promises, high school dropouts, and no substantial returns on investment. As a result of standardized tests, our children have been left behind and are falling to the bottom of the heap!

**Solution**

Continue with Section III, where you will identify and describe your plan to solve the problem that you previously discussed in Section II. You will also explain why your solution will work better than other ones, and what distinguishes it from others.

Name your solution and why it will be successful: Your solution should have a catchy name and include two to three reasons why it will be successful.

Also, in this section and section V, you must prove the ideas put forth in your thesis statement, which was the statement of what your plan is and why it is the best solution. The direction of the remaining sections will be determined by your plan and why it will be successful, so be sure to look over this section of the First Draft.

Distinguish your solution: Your solution should be unique, so here’s your opportunity to explain what sets it apart from other equally good solutions. What is missing from other solutions, and what makes your solution the better option? Some solutions may be untested just as yours is, and you will argue why these other untested solutions won’t work as well as yours will. Essentially you must argue that your solution is the best solution compared to what is currently being done about the problem, as well as what others have suggested in solving it. The only conclusion that the reader will have is that your solution is the only one that anyone should consider, as all other possibilities have been eliminated as viable. Please note that you are advancing your unique solution to the problem. This solution may be partly based on what someone else has proposed, but if so, you must document and cite their solution. Do not feel compelled to propose certain solutions just because research exists for them. Very often the problem still exists because the solution being enacted to solve it is simply not working, and nobody is willing to admit it.

Major steps in operationalizing your solution: Identify the major steps that must be taken so that your solution can be implemented. The major steps may also include minor steps, so be sure to include those as well. This part is the nuts and bolts of your plan: what person or entity would be in charge of implementing the solution, what is their expertise, where are they to be located, when exactly will they begin, and so on.

Summarize the deliverables: This section ends with your explanation of what deliverables can be expected when the solution is implemented.

**Benefits**

For Section IV, or Benefits, detail how the solution will bring about benefits. In your paper pitch, you briefly outlined the benefits of your plan, why the investment is worthwhile, and the materials or resources needed to start. In this section of your draft, you will expand on these ideas, specifically organizing your paper according to the aspects detailed below.

Offer a costs/benefits analysis: In this part, you will prove to the reader that your plan is worthwhile in terms of time, energy, money, or a combination of these three. A chart or graph will show clearly that these benefits outweigh any costs. To determine the benefits of the solution, look back at your thesis statement at the end of Section I in your First Draft; your benefits should prove what you outlined earlier in your thesis. If you are using a solution that is partly based on one from research, you will include the numbers from this source and cite it. If you are using your solution not based on anything you have found in research, you will have a reasonable estimation of the numbers without the need for a citation.

Identify necessary materials or resources: Include the materials and/or resources that are needed to make your solution a successful reality. Look back at the previous section, Section III, for your major steps in operationalizing your solution. Determine what is needed if these steps are to be followed. You don’t know yet what will be needed in the long term; at least in the short term or to get started, identify the materials and resources needed.

Add in a chart or graph as discussed in Week 6 Lecture. Be sure to have a title at the top, all text in Times New Roman 12, and a short explanation at the bottom. An example follows.

*Figure 2*: Cost of Current Testing System vs. Proposed Testing System

*Figure 2:* This chart shows the cost of the current testing system in billions of dollars in blue in Year 1 of the program, and then again in Years 5 and 10. The proposed testing system is shown in red in the same 3 years: Years 1, 5, and 10. Clearly, the proposed system will save billions of dollars in the short term as well as in the long term.

**Conclusion**

The final section of the paper is the conclusion. This is not the area just to repeat earlier information. It will be two paragraphs in length. End with memorable ideas and details, including a call to action, that sell the solution to the reader.

Thus Section I Introduction, Section II Problem Analysis, Section III Solution, Section IV Benefits, and Section V Conclusion are detailed in this Final Draft. The length of this document is about 8 to 10 pages, including the title page and References. Proofread carefully, and then turn in this document by the deadline identified by your instructor.

References

Put your sources cited in-text above here in alphabetical order, starting with the first line flush left and hanging indent of the second and each subsequent line. Each in-text citation should have a corresponding reference entry here.

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