

You will write an essay of 1500-2500 words based on your research assignment next week. First, however, you will produce an outline. The essay is going to be an analysis of one part of the thought of one of the authors we have been learning about. In particular, you are going to present in context a key argument made by this author both in their own words and in premise-conclusion form. You will be graded on how well you analyze and critique the argument, as well as how well you represent the author's work, their significance, and the details of their thought and historical context (i.e. their intellectual context).

Your task here is to create an essay outline. You will begin your outline with a thesis statement. Your thesis statement will be a brief paragraph summarizing what you will say about your chosen author in the essay. Make sure you tell me (briefly) about the argument you have chosen and make one or more easily understood claims that you will provide evidence for in the essay.

The outline itself will contain a brief description of each paragraph or section of the essay (which will be about 5 pages long). I recommend using bullet points or a numbered list with sub-lists. That is, something like this (filling in the information):

1. Introduction.
  - 1.1. First paragraph of the introduction: who was this person?
  - 1.2. Second paragraph of the introduction: what are you going to tell us?
2. Section One: Your Chosen Primary Source
  - 2.1. First paragraph of section one: what was this natural philosopher up to?
  - 2.2. Second paragraph of section two: what is the relevance of their work?
3. Section Three: The Argument
  - 3.1. First paragraph: where does the argument appear?
  - 3.2. Second paragraph: what is the significance of the argument?
  - 3.3. Third paragraph: the argument.

Etc. etc.

NB As far as I am concerned you do not need a conclusion. You will have told me in the introduction what you will do in the essay, and then you will have done it. There is no need to tell me that you have done it in the conclusion.