The Outlining Process

Why is outlining useful?

- Outlining helps us organize our ideas *before* we begin to write a paragraph or essay.

Step 1: Know your topic *(thesis statement)*

- Before you begin to outline, you should have a clear understanding of what your essay will be about.

Step 2: Topic Sentence

- Develop your topic sentence (or overall idea) for your paragraph.

Step 3: List Supporting Details

- 2-3 examples that support your topic sentence
- Make sure you to stay on topic
- Relate back to your topic sentence

Outlining Example:

Thesis Statement:

San Diego is a great place to spend the summer.

Topic Sentence:

There are many interesting things to do.

Supporting Details:

- Hiking
- Beautiful Parks