

Writing Rough Draft of Research Paper

You must have your outline completed and your note cards organized into categories before writing your paper. You are going to write in sentence and paragraph form what you have on your outline. Your rough draft should be typed and totally completed. In class, we will do some editing on the paper, and then the final paper should be very similar to the first draft.

Introduction:

For your introduction, begin with the attention-getter that you have on your outline. Then tie in the background information. Then end the introduction with your thesis. Note: the first and last sentences of this paragraph are already written on your outline. You need to write 3 or 4 for the background information.

Body paragraphs:

Each of the 3 body paragraphs should begin with the topic sentence, which you have written on your outline. The topic sentence must be a sentence, not a question, that is your ideas and your words.

After the topic sentence, make a statement that supports your topic sentence and leads into an example, a quote or paraphrase. Present your quote or paraphrase. After you have given support, spend a sentence or two explaining how the example(s) support the topic sentence. Make sure to end the 3 body paragraphs with your own words and your own ideas.

Concluding paragraph:

For the first sentence restate your thesis. This means that you say about the same thing as you did in your thesis, but you say it differently. After this sentence, write 2 or 3 more sentences that emphasize that it is important to remember. You might say that it is a good for everyone to know this history for a certain reason.

Reminder:

- Make sure the paper is typed. Remember to save it so that it is easy to make changes.
- Make sure you have a heading.
- Make sure there is a title. Do **not** include the words “rough draft.”
- Double-space entire paper
- Make sure that margins are 1” all around.
- Make sure that you don’t have a quote by itself. All quotes should be connected to your own words.
- Don’t include words such as “quote,” “attn-getter,” “thesis,” and “introduction,” in your actual paper. You have those in your outline as reminders.
- Do **NOT** put extra spaces between paragraphs.
- Use 12pt Times New Roman.
- Make sure to use your own ideas and words. Use quotes and paraphrases only to support your words and ideas.
- There should be no quotes in the introduction, unless it is the attention getter, and the conclusion.
- All paragraphs should begin and end with your own words.
- Make sure to include in-text citations for the ideas that aren’t yours.
- Do not use 1st or 2nd person pronouns: you, I, we, me, us, our, mine, your, and so on.
- Do not start your last paragraph with “finally,” “in summary,” “in conclusion,” “lastly,” or other such phrases and words.