

# Creating an Outline for a Research Paper

You've done all your research and found a ton of information on your topic. Before you start writing your paper, take time to create an outline. This will help you organize your information and make the writing process smoother.

We use Roman numerals for an outline. Each Roman numeral stands for a paragraph:

- I. Introduction
- II. First subtopic
- III. Second subtopic
- IV. Third subtopic
- V. Conclusion



This is a good start, but it's even better if we can have a better idea of what will be in each paragraph. For the parts of each paragraph, such as support and examples, we use capital letters. Here's an example outline for a report on penguins:

- I. Introduction
  - A. Interesting fact about penguins
  - B. Topic sentence
- II. Penguin types
  - A. Small species
  - B. Medium sized species
  - C. Large species
- III. Where penguins live
  - A. Antarctica
  - B. Other places
  - C. Visual aid: map

