Part II: The Pre-Writing Stage

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- Initial Steps
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Ready, Set, Go...

- Understand the writing assignment

- Choose an appropriate topic to write about:
  - Meets assignment criteria
  - Provides a topic for which there is a sufficient amount of information known (i.e., enough to provide supporting details for your paper).
  - Can be proven significant through use of evidence
  - Holds your interest

- Get instructor’s approval for your topic

*Exercise patience and keep in mind that your paper may develop in a cyclic-like process and evolve as you go along.*
## Establish a Project Timeline

### Sample

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Work on article</td>
<td>2 Work: Soccer practice, Read assignment thoroughly and speak with instructor to clarify all questions</td>
<td>3 Project Meeting, Lunch with Mr. Smith</td>
<td>4 Work</td>
<td>5 Work</td>
<td>6 Meeting with Dr. Brown</td>
<td>7 Research topic and create outline for paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Camping Trip</td>
<td>16 Soccer practice, Seminar, Work on body of paper</td>
<td>17 Work: Complete body of paper</td>
<td>18 Work: Research Seminar, Work on title page and abstract</td>
<td>19 Test for Class B, Complete title page and abstract</td>
<td>20 Complete reference page, Meeting with Advisor, Violin recital</td>
<td>21 Complete initial proof of paper and make necessary changes, Movie night with Sam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Work on article, E-mail paper to Molly for proofing</td>
<td>23 Work: Soccer practice, Work on article</td>
<td>24 Work: Work on article, Concert</td>
<td>25 Work: Receive edits from Molly and make changes</td>
<td>26 Work: Perform one last proof of paper and submit electronic copy to instructor</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 <em>Paper due by 12 a.m.</em></td>
<td>30 Work: Soccer Practice</td>
<td>31 Work</td>
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Creating an Outline

Purposes of Outlining Before You Write

• Ensure that you include all required components
• Identify potential holes in your paper before you begin to write
• Guide your research efforts (if applicable)
• Guide your writing efforts
• Organize your thoughts
Step 1

I. Introduction

II. Literature Review

III. Methods

IV. Results

V. Discussion

VI. Conclusion
Step 2

I. Introduction
   A. Identify topic
   B. Reason for choosing topic
   C. Importance of topic
   D. Definition of terms
   E. Intended audience
   F. Purpose of paper
   G. Organization of paper
How to Create an Outline (Continued)

Step 3

I. Introduction
   A. Topic
      a. Access to dental care for rural and underserved areas
   B. Reason for choosing topic
      a. Personal interest in topic
   C. Importance of topic
      a. Lack of access is a health care problem
         1. Rural and underserved populations lack adequate access to dental care
         2. Tooth decay most common and preventable childhood disease
         3. 80% of dental caries occur among 25% of children
            a. most are from lower income families
         4. For all age groups, people from poor families more likely to have untreated caries than those living above the poverty level
Acknowledgements / Resources Consulted

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