

Your Last Name

Your Instructor's Name

English Composition 1101

Date

### Sample Outline

Thesis: Fairies actually do exist.

- I. Different descriptions of fairies exist across time and culture.
  - A. Beliefs often rooted in reality.
  - B. Differences don't necessarily mean they are just myth.
- II. Fairies can make themselves invisible which is why humans don't see them.
  - A. They are fearful humans may want to capture them.
  - B. They could be passing over from a parallel dimension.
- III. Lack of scientific proof doesn't mean they don't exist.
  - A. Belief alone creates existence.
  - B. A belief is a real experience.
  - C. Actual, tangible existence is not necessary for something to be real.

Concluding statement: Fairies are real.

Notes:

1. An outline has the same page formatting as any MLA document with 1" margins, double spacing, font, header, and heading except that it is a list using Roman numerals to number the main paragraph title, capital letters to number each subparagraph, and small Roman numerals for sub-sub paragraphs, if any.
2. The thesis statement is a statement, not a question.
3. There is a paragraph in the body for each of the points in the thesis in the same order
4. What you intend to include as background information before the thesis is not part of the outline.
5. The traditional outline does not call for a Concluding Statement, so your instructor may not want one included. However, it is helpful to be reminded that the last paragraph should simply sum up the proof and restate the thesis, thereby reinforcing proving your thesis.
6. New information should not be part of the concluding paragraph.