

Biography Outline

- I. Introduction Paragraph: *Briefly* describe who the person was and what notable thing he/she did. Remember . . . your lead needs to grab the reader's attention!! Your introductory paragraph should contain a strong first sentence that gives the reader a hint at your topic. The introductory sentence should be followed by a few sentences that give a little more information about your topic and lead up to your "big claim," or thesis statement. The last sentence of your first paragraph will state your thesis.

- II. Early Life
 - A. Birth date and birthplace
 - B. Family Life (What did his/her parents do for work? Siblings?)

- III. Major Contributions/Accomplishments including significant events that led to achievement (Education, Occupation, Experiences)

- IV. Impact of Contributions/ Accomplishments
How did your subject make a difference in the world? How would our lives be different if he did not achieve his goals? Why should he be remembered?

- V. Conclusion
Is your subject still living? If not, include date of death and cause of death; a sentence that re-states your big claim (thesis); a few sentences that repeat the points you made in each body paragraph; a final sentence that sums up your overall argument.

Remember, each body paragraph will contain the following:

- Topic sentence
- Evidence and Explanation
- Concluding statement that transitions to the next topic