

## Writers' Toolbox Homework

### Points: 20

At this point you should have a pretty good idea of what an outline looks like and how to generate one. For example, if the topic you were assigned was, "Obesity and its related risks and habits (are) (are not) serious problems in the US," I might generate the following outline. Please note that this is a *very, very* rough draft.

- I: Introduction with thesis: Obesity and its related risks and habits are serious problems in the US for three reasons:
  - A. they impact an individual's health,
  - B. they impact an individual's self-esteem, and
  - C. they have a negative financial impact on the country due to increased health-care costs.
  
- II: Point one: Impacts an individual's health
  - A. Decreased mobility
  - B. Increased heart disease
  - C. Increased likelihood of diabetes
  
- III. Point two: Impacts an individual's self-esteem
  - A. "Thin is in" and negative media focus on weight
  - B. Peer isolation
  
- IV. Point three: Increased health-care cost
  - A. More weight means more bad health nationally
  - B. More bad health means higher insurance costs
  - C. Higher insurance costs means higher healthcare costs.
  
- V. Conclusion

Again, this is a very rough draft. The point is that I thought enough about the topic and brainstormed enough in order to produce this outline. It's possible I might move away from some of these topics, but at least I have a road map.

For homework, select one of the following topics and create an outline. Your outline should have the following sections:

- one introductory section that states your opinion that introduces three points
- the first point with topics you will address
- the second point with topics you will address
- the third point with topics you will address
- a conclusion

Here are your prompt choices. You do not need to do any research for this project, and you will not be writing an actual paper on this topic (unless you really want to), but you do need to brainstorm ideas. This outline, **although typed**, will be a rough draft of ideas.

1. Home schooling (is) (is not) an effective alternative to public schooling
2. Media violence (affects) (does not affect) the behavior of society
3. Prayer (should) (should not) be permitted in public schools

**Point value: 20 points**

**brainstorming in writing: 5 points**

**outline with 5 Roman numeral sections 3 of which have subsections: 10 points**

**typed: 5 points**