**Outline for Position Paper** Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Position/Topic:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Submit with final draft.

**Step 1**: Identify Body Paragraphs (Topics I will research to prove and develop my assertion) *Do this as researching the topic. What keeps popping up? Don’t worry about putting these in sentences yet. Research and list the evidence you will use to support.*

1. (Define the problem and state your position)

2. (Reason 1 for your position)

3. (Reason 2 for your position)

4. (Reason 3 for your position)

*(Four body paragraphs is not a magic number, but is used here simply as an example. Use however many you need to develop your topic fully.)*

**Step 2:** Counter Argument – *What are the main arguments of people who disagree with your position? How will you defend them?*

*1.*

(Defense)

2.

(Defense)

*(Again, two is not a magic number. Consider your audience. What arguments will they be using as defense against your views?)*

**Step 3**: Good writing typically has easily identifiable parts that serve as “signposts” to the reader. Content (the way you build sentences) improves the more you write. Structure (the way your essay is organized) guides the reader through your essay.

Introduction: Identify a strategy you will use to hook your reader into your paper. Show me how you will fulfill this strategy.

***Strategy Name***: (circle)

establish the context define a problem make a surprising statement ask a real question tell a story

provide a historical account lead with a quotation draw a contrast

***Rough sketch of introduction***:

***Thesis***: Following the Topic + Comment pattern, write your thesis statement. Circle the topic, and underline each of the body paragraph points.

Conclusion Paraphrase the thesis statement and use a strategy to conclude

***Strategy Name***: (circle)

additional analysis speculate about the future call to action quotation link to your intro

***Rough sketch of conclusion***:

If your essay was composed well, you essentially have most of your rough draft written. Put all these pieces together [in MLA format] and be sure to develop EACH part of the PPE (point, proof, evidence). Be sure to proofread. Pause? = Comma. Stop? = Period or semi-colon (just make sure you have complete sentences on both sides of the semi-colon.