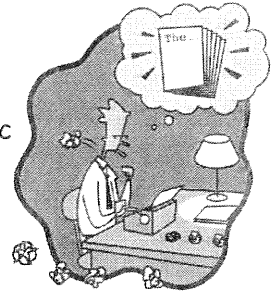


**Step Four: Formal Outline.** Before writing your rough draft, create a formal outline of your essay by relying upon your Cornell Notes and other source materials to create it.

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. The Search Question (Set the Mood)**

1. Reflect upon the topic of your I-Search
2. Explain what you already know or wonder about the topic
3. Explain why you chose the topic
4. Write your search question (thesis statement)



## **II. Body Paragraphs\***

### **A. The Search Process (Initial Steps)**

1. Statement about the value of the web sites you went to and/or other sources you used, including your interview
2. Example about the information you found *(and the value of other links or references)*
3. Explanation about the usefulness the information was *(did it support your search question?)*

### **B. The Search Process (Subsequent Steps)**

1. Statement about the value of the web sites you went to and/or other sources you used, including your interview
2. Example about the information you found *(and the value of other links or references)*
3. Explanation about the usefulness the information was *(did it support your search question?)*

### **C. What I Learned**

1. Statement about what you learned
2. Example directly citing information from which you learned
3. Explanation about the example clearly showing what you learned

### **D. What I Learned**

1. Statement about what you learned
2. Example directly citing information from which you learned
3. Explanation about the example clearly showing what you learned

*\*Body paragraph length will vary according to depth of research. Minimum of four body paragraphs is required.*

## **III. Conclusion**

### **A. What It Means to Me**

1. Statement about what you now know about searching for information that you didn't know before. *(Do not write about the topic)*
2. Reflect on how this knowledge will affect the way you think or act in the future about researching a topic.
3. Explain what kind of skills you have developed as a researcher and writer.
4. Explain what you learned about the thinking process involved in doing research, and how it felt once you made this realization.

