

Paragraph Unit



Lesson 2 Making an Outline

After taking notes for a report the next step is to make an outline from the notes. Compare the outline below to the graphic organizer from Lesson 1.

Title of Paragraph

Outline	Part of a Paragraph	Paragraph
I. Deadly yellow-spotted lizards	The main topic is used to build the topic sentence.	Yellow-spotted lizards are a deadly threat to all humans at Camp Green Lake.
A. Moved to Green Lake after lake dried up a. bite always fatal	Details First Point and Support	They invaded the area after the life-giving lake dried up. Their bite is always fatal.
B. Killed Kate Barlow	Details Second Point and Support	It was a yellow-spotted lizard that killed Kate Barlow.
C. Threatened Stanley and Zero a. reason survive ate onions b. lizards hate onions	Details Third Point and Support	The yellow-spotted lizards threatened Stanley and Zero while they were digging for Stanley's great-grandfather's suitcase. The reason Stanley and Zero survived is because they had eaten so many onions that the lizards, who do not like onion blood, did not wish to bite them.
Conclusion	Conclusion	With this one exception, meeting a yellow-spotted lizard at Camp Green Lake meant certain death.

How to Make an Outline

1. Write a title that lets the reader know the subject of the report.
2. Main topics are listed using Roman numerals and periods.
3. Points or facts are listed under each topic using capital letters and periods.
4. Subtopics are extra information that is needed to clarify a point or fact. They are listed under each fact as needed. Subtopics are listed using lower case letters and periods.

Questions

Use the outline above to answer these questions.

1. What is the main topic in the paragraph above?
2. How many points are made in this paragraph?
3. Did each point need additional clarification?
4. What do the Roman numerals represent?
5. What are the capital letters used for?
6. How many points were made in the paragraph?

Activity

Additional Practice

Using the information below to form an outline. (Save this outline for later use.)



Suggested Headings for Main Topics:

Physical Features

Way of Life

Migration

Gypsies

traditionally nomadic people
 travel in small caravans
 found on every continent
 estimated to number between 6 and 7 million
 ruled by elders
 spread to every part of Europe by the beginning of the 16th century
 today great majority of Gypsies live in Eastern Europe
 usually adopted the religion of their country of residence

dark-complexioned, short, and lightly built
 blood groupings coincide with those of S Himalayan tribes
 make living as metalworkers, singers, dancers, musicians, horse dealers, and auto mechanics – women as fortunetellers
 came originally from NW India
 unique language, called Romany – related to the languages of NW India
 arrived in North America in the late 1800s
 have particular folkways

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