

The Research Project

Overview, Requirements, and Guidelines

Project Overview

- ❖ A 4–6 minute **presentation** on your topic
- ❖ A **visual aid** to help you explain your ideas
- ❖ A clear, correctly formatted **thesis statement**
- ❖ A solid, well-structured **introductory paragraph**
- ❖ A complete, well-organized **outline** w/ 4th-level detail
- ❖ A correctly formatted **works-cited page** (a bibliography)

Thesis Statements

- ❖ *Focus* – Show the **impact** of your person's life, not only one accomplishment
- ❖ *Components*
 - ❖ *Framework* – Shows cause/effect **relationship**
 - ❖ *Support* – The three **reasons** why your person (or invention) was influential
 - ❖ *Topic* – The **name** of your person
 - ❖ *Controlling Idea* – The **extent** of your person's influence

Thesis Statements: Formula

- ❖ Framework + Support + Topic + Controlling Idea = Thesis
- ❖ Because of [his/her] X_1 , X_2 , and X_3 , [topic] [controlling idea].
- ❖ Because of her resourcefulness, determination, and good fortune, Ruth Wakefield reformed the chocolate industry and forever changed how Americans think of cookies.

Outlines

- ❖ *Step One:* Write a great thesis with three **traits/reasons**
- ❖ *Step Two:* Provide solid **examples** of each trait/reason
- ❖ *Step Three:* **Explain, Relate,** and **Illustrate** each example
- ❖ *Step Four:* Provide **detail** (split something from Step Three)

Example Outline

Ruth Wakefield



First: Write a Great Thesis

Support

Topic

Controlling Idea

— [Because of her resourcefulness, determination, and good fortune, Ruth Wakefield reformed the chocolate industry and forever changed how Americans think of cookies.

Sample Outline



— [**resourcefulness**

— [**determination**

— [**good fortune**

Step Two: Provide Examples

— [**resourcefulness**

- made cookies for travelers
- tinkered with ingredients
- created her own recipes

Step Two: Provide Examples

— [**determination**

- kept the Toll House Inn open
- tried chocolate bars when powder ran out
- published a cookbook

Step Two: Provide Examples

— [**good fortune**

- ran out of chocolate
- substituted candy bar pieces
- people liked the accident

Sample Outline



resourcefulness

- made cookies for travelers
- tinkered with ingredients
- created her own recipes

determination

- kept the Toll House Inn open
- tried chocolate bars when powder ran out
- published a cookbook

good fortune

- ran out of chocolate
- substituted candy bar pieces
- people liked the accident

Step Three: Explanations

— [**ran out of chocolate**

— making Butter Drop Do cookies

— recipe called for powered chocolate

— had none

Step Three: Explanations

— [**substituted candy bar pieces**

- looked for replacement chocolate
- had only Nestlé chocolate bars
- broke into bits and added to cookies

Step Three: Explanations

— [**people liked the accident**

— 7,000,000,000 (seven billion) eaten per year

— created the new Nestlé chocolate industry

— 1/2 of all homemade cookies baked

Sample Outline



resourcefulness

- made cookies for travelers
- tinkered with ingredients
- created her own recipes

determination

- kept the Toll House Inn open
- tried chocolate bars when powder ran out
- published a cookbook

good fortune

- ran out of chocolate
 - making Butter Drop Do cookies
 - recipe called for powdered chocolate
 - had none
- substituted candy bar pieces
 - looked for replacement chocolate
 - had only Nestlé chocolate bars
 - broke into bits and added to cookies
- people liked the accident
 - 7,000,000,000 (seven billion) eaten per year
 - created the new Nestlé chocolate industry
 - 1/2 of all homemade cookies baked

Step Four: Add Extra Detail

— [**created the new Nestlé chocolate industry**

— 33,000 Toll House chocolate chip cookies per day

— created a new product line – the morsels

— chocolate bars are now scored for easy breaking

Sample Outline



resourcefulness

- made cookies for travelers
- tinkered with ingredients
- created her own recipes

determination

- kept the Toll House Inn open
- tried chocolate bars when powder ran out
- published a cookbook

good fortune

- ran out of chocolate
 - making Butter Drop Do cookies
 - recipe called for powdered chocolate
 - had none
- substituted candy bar pieces
 - looked for replacement chocolate
 - had only Nestlé chocolate bars
 - broke into bits and added to cookies
- people liked the accident
 - 7,000,000,000 (seven billion) eaten per year
 - created the new Nestlé chocolate industry
 - 33,000 Toll House chocolate chip cookies per day
 - created a new product line - the morsels
 - chocolate bars are now scored for easy breaking
 - ½ of all homemade cookies baked

Sample Visual Aid

Based on 4th level just added

The Nestlé Cookie Empire



Works Cited Page

- ❖ Document every source you use
- ❖ Primary Research Log designed to help
- ❖ Formatting is **very** important
- ❖ Samples found on *Primer* page 58