Structuring your Research Paper

Creating an Outline

Adding Voice / Analysis

Forming Conclusions
Creating an Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Body A**
- **Body B**
- **Conclusion**

**Thesis**

3-4 **Supporting Statements**

Each Supporting Statement Should have at least 2 pieces of evidence

**Findings / Possible Solutions**
Sample Outline #1

Thesis:
The Labor policies of Coca-Cola in India are horrific in comparison to their policies in the United States. Both Indians and Americans should use every possible measure to force Coca-Cola to be a more socially responsible company.
Supporting Statement #1

1. Coca Cola has been taking groundwater from areas that desperately need the water to survive throughout India.

WHAT KIND OF ANALYSIS COULD YOU ADD TO THIS STATEMENT?

A. Write about what it would mean to a person / community to not have clean drinking water.
B. Americans would never stand for this, so Indians need to stand up to Coke.
C. Americans should support Indians and work to stop Coke from stealing their groundwater.
1. In 2000, Coca-Cola opened a factory in Kerala, India. The company has since been taking the groundwater from under the feet of the villagers, who are mainly landless laborers (Smith 47). The only water these villagers have access to now is water that is used to cremate the people that die in their village (49).

2. In the Kala Dera section of Rajasthan, where there is also a Coke factory, ground water levels have been documented dropping at an alarming rate and high levels of contamination have been found (Hyams 35).

3. In another section of India located close to a Coke factory, villagers reported bouts of dizziness, and some developed rashes after bathing in the undoubtedly contaminated water (Frank 132).
Supporting Statement #2

1. This contamination does more than just pollute the drinking water. Farming is the way in which most of these villagers make their livings. It is their work – their livelihood. The contaminated groundwater is, in turn, contaminating the soil.

**WHAT KIND OF ANALYSIS COULD YOU ADD TO THIS STATEMENT?**

A. Write what it would mean to not be able make a living – the hopelessness that this would cause, etc.
EVIDENCE FOR STATEMENT #2

1. COCA-COLA PLANTS IN PLACHIMADA AND MEHDIGANJ WERE DISCOVERED DISTRIBUTING THEIR SOLID WASTE PRODUCTS TO LOCAL FARMERS UNDER THE GUISE OF “FERTILIZER.” A STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE BBC FOUND THESE WASTE PRODUCTS TO CONTAIN CADMIUM AND LEAD, THUS MAKING THEM LITERAL “TOXIC WASTE” PRODUCTS (GIRIDHARADAS 17).

A PERSONAL TESTIMONIAL: “MY CROPS AND MY CATTLE ARE MY ONLY WEALTH,” ONE FARMER IS QUOTED SAYING IN AN APRIL 17 ISSUE OF THE AGE. “I AM NOTHING WITHOUT THEM. TO SURVIVE THEY NEED WATER AND WATER IS RUNNING OUT” (MUKHARAJEE 87).

WHAT KIND OF ANALYSIS COULD YOU ADD HERE?
1. Restate the problem or comparison: The destruction to water, land, and the people of India that Coca-Cola is causing is disturbing.

2. Add concluding thoughts on your finding and/or offer possible solutions: They need to incur fines, legal action – any action really – in order to make them realize that their company is not worth more than the livelihoods and health of the Indian people.
Begin by stating the comparison that you are making in a clear and concise manner:

The Labor policies of Coca-Cola in India are horrific in comparison to their policies in the United States. Both Indians and Americans should use every possible measure to force Coca-Cola to be a more socially responsible company.

Add Supporting statements:

1. Coca-Cola has been taking groundwater from areas that desperately need the water to survive throughout India.

2. This contamination does more than just pollute the drinking water. Farming is the way in which most of these villagers make their livings. It is their work – their livelihood. The contaminated groundwater is, in turn, contaminating the soil.

1. For each supporting statement, add at least 2 forms of evidence.

2. Throughout each of these steps add as much analysis/voice as possible.

3. Add a conclusion that: Sums up each part of your statement and then add possible solutions, recommendations and/or concluding thoughts.
IN 2000, COCA-COLA OPENED A FACTORY IN KERALA, INDIA. THE COMPANY HAS SINCE BEEN TAKING THE GROUNDWATER FROM UNDER THE FEET OF THE VILLAGERS, WHO ARE MAINLY LANDLESS LABORERS (NELSON 12). THE ONLY WATER THESE VILLAGERS HAVE ACCESS TO NOW IS WATER THAT IS USED TO CREMATE THE PEOPLE THAT DIE IN THEIR VILLAGE (14).

HOW WOULD YOU ADD A FEW SENTENCES OF ANALYSIS TO THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH?
Water, as we’re all well-aware, is one of the most basic human necessities. Without water, the body will cease to function in an alarmingly short amount of time. But when faced with the choice between contaminated water and no water at all, how does one make such a choice? How does one choose between two equally horrific possible deaths? Moreover, what right does Coca-Cola have to force this choice upon the people of these villages?

As you can see – all of the previous sentences do not come from your sources; instead, they come from evaluation. Let’s look at another example...
Coca-Cola plants in Plachimada and Mehdiganj were discovered distributing their solid waste products to local farmers under the guise of “fertilizer.” A study conducted by the BBC found these waste products to contain cadmium and lead, thus making them literal “toxic waste” products (Giridharadas 17).

**Adding Your Voice? Analysis**

How would you add a few sentences of analysis to the previous paragraph?
There is really no way to make good choices in this situation. Coca-Cola Corporation is destroying the way in which the people in these communities make their money and support their families. Farming is the only access to earning a living that these people have. They can’t go get a job at the nearest Walmart or Giant Eagle as many people in America can. Their income is dependent upon the seeds the put in the ground and what becomes of those seeds. Coca-Cola is destroying the livelihood of these farmers in multiple ways: Not only are they eliminating precious groundwater, they are contaminating what water is actually left.