# Lesson – Turn Thesis into Outline

**Standard**

* + - produce expository, analytical and argumentative compositions that introduce a complex central idea and develop it with appropriate evidence drawn from primary and/or secondary sources, cogent explanations and clear transitions

**Text**

**Shakespeare, “St. Crispin’s Day,” from *Henry V*.**

**Overview**

* Students will learn how to develop an AP thesis into an AP outline.

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| Lecture Bullet Points |
| **Now that you have written your AP thesis…**   1. In your composition, you will be writing your thesis statement FIRST. Then, you will be moving right in to the essay. No B.S., no stalling. 2. Your thesis IS your outline. In it, you have laid out major/minor arguments, two tactics, and have probably given a sense of the order of your argument. 3. In **outlining**, you just need to line up a piece of data for your minor argument and two for your major argument. 4. You also need to explain (briefly) the job the data will perform.   **Part One: Although = Your Minor Argument**   1. Your first paragraph will be the “Although” issue. It will be your CLAIM. Then give sufficient CONTEXT, the incorporated DATA, and your WARRANT, your explanation of how or in what way these words proved your claim. 2. Divide your text into thirds. 3. Look at the “although.” The *although* probably addresses the argument the speaker brings up in the first third of the text.    * 1. Your “although” will be the subject of your first body paragraph.      2. Look at the TACTIC you chose for the *although*. The tactic you chose will probably be ethos, particularly if the speaker is facing a hostile audience.      3. What THREE quotes, moments, etc. BEST convey the speaker’s ethos? Those will be your data.   **Part Two: Nevertheless= Your Major Argument**  Repeat this process with the major argument. You MAY have more than one tactic for the major argument.  DISCUSS THE PASSAGE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.   1. [Tactic]+major argument 2. Purpose |

**Example – Developing a Thesis from an Outline**

**Thesis**: *Although he initially attempts to browbeat and shame his soldiers into fighting for their victory, King Henry changes his tactics midway through his famous St. Crispin’s Day speech by appealing to each soldier’s desire for long life, heroic immortality, and brotherhood to convince the hugely outnumbered soldiers to defeat the French in the battle of Agincourt.*

I. MINOR CLAIM: Henry attempts to browbeat and shame his soldiers into fighting for their victory.

A. DATA: If we are mark’d to die, we are enow / To do our country loss; and if to live, / The fewer men, the greater share of honour.

B. WARRANT: Effective to begin with “if,” making death only a possibility

1. Fewer men = bigger slices of the honor pizza

2. Doesn’t work because honor is a pretty abstract concept to rough soldiers.

II. Next, Henry tries shame.

A. DATA: We would not die in that man’s company / That fears his fellowship to die with us.

B. WARRANT: Insults are a less-effective tactic

1. Doesn’t work because calling soldiers chicken when they have good reason to be afraid is demoralizing.

2. Doesn’t work because even though Henry tries to turn it around, his argument has just now acknowledged the fact that they don’t have enough guys.

III. MAJOR CLAIM: Henry changes tactics by appealing to his soldiers’ desire for long life

A. DATA: Then shall he strip his sleeve and show his scars …teach his son.

B. WARRANT: The word “rather” signals a change in tactic

1. Henry realizes honor won’t work by itself. The promise of long life works better.

2. Works because dead bodies don’t make scars

3. Works because dead men don’t make sons

4. Works because of plain and vivid language and home-spun imagery

IV. PURPOSE: Henry’s speech persuades his men to win against the French by appealing to their desire to achieve not just mortality, but heroic immortality as a noble “band of brothers”

A. DATA: And Crispin Crispian shall ne’er go by…with us upon St. Crispin’s day.

B. WARRANT: Mortality is an appealing promise; immortality is even better.

1. Works because he promises them eternal life “to the ending of the world”

2. Memory of their deeds will preserve them

3. They will be part of a heroic brotherhood

4. No matter how low-born or “vile,” brotherhood will include the King, God’s anointed