

# 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 powdered 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