Senior Project - Research Paper Outline

I. Introduction
   A. Attention grabber (Interesting Quote, Statistics, or Story)
   B. Commentary and sentences that transition to your topic
   C. Thesis statement (One sentence without "I think," "I believe," or "My essay will…")

II. Description of the issue
   A. Topic sentence that names one aspect of the issue (Write a paragraph for each aspect)
   B. Concrete details that fully describe the above (Use your own words and/or notes)
   C. Commentary on details (Use your own words)
   D. Closing sentence or transition to the next paragraph

III. History - (Timeline of major turning points)
   A. Topic sentence that tells when this issue began to draw attention
   B. Concrete details about major turning points up to the present (Use your notes)
   C. Commentary on each of the turning points (Use your own words)
   D. Closing sentence or transition to the next paragraph

IV. Significance - (Why it is important to do something)
   A. Topic sentence that tells why the issue needs to be addressed
   B. Concrete details about the negative outcomes if nothing changes (Your words or notes)
   C. Commentary on the negative outcomes (Your words)
   D. Closing sentence or transition to the next paragraph

V. Proposal - (Action plan that will lead to change)
   A. Topic sentence that tells what should be done and why
   B. Concrete details that describe what needs to change (Your words or notes)
   C. Commentary on how these changes will lead to improvement (Your words)
   D. Closing sentence or transition to the next paragraph

VI. Conclusion
   A. Restate your thesis (Same idea written differently. Can be two sentences)
   B. Summarize key points in the essay
   C. Describe how the future would be different if we make the changes you suggest