

What to do with disorganized papers (before or after they become that way...)

<u>For Students who are Brainstorming</u>	<u>For the Already Disorganized Paper</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Write a Thesis statement2. Identify the different parts of the thesis, as intended to be addressed in the following paragraphs and write them below the thesis3. Write a topic sentence for each paragraph4. Write the paper, making sure each paragraph stays on topic	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify the Thesis statement (underline, highlight, etc)2. Identify the different parts of the thesis, as intended to be addressed in the following paragraphs (underline, highlight, etc)3. Find and mark the topic sentence in each paragraph4. Write down all of the above on a separate sheet of paper to see the flow of thought5. Evaluate and rearrange or delete paragraphs as needed

If students are worried about their writing being redundant, or if it all starts to sound the same by the end, this is also a good way to evaluate for unnecessary content. I often work through the steps with them, then encourage to do this on their own with all papers.