**Simple Outline for a Comp I Problem/Solution Essay**

1. **Introduction**
2. Catch reader’s attention.
3. Define problem.
4. Provide background and/or history of problem.
5. Establish why a reader should care about the problem.
6. Briefly summarize your solution.
7. **Body**
8. Explain your solution in detail. How would you implement it? Break it down into phases (time schedule) or components (aspects).
9. If you break it down into phases, explain the two to four steps and schedule you would follow to implement your proposal.
10. If you break it down into components that aren’t dependent on a time sequence, simply explain the two to four parts to your solution.
11. Explain why you think your proposal will work (based on research).
12. You can do this by providing examples that other people have tried. If they weren’t successful, how will your solution improve on their efforts? (Maybe they were underfunded or didn’t have access to new research.)
13. Another way of “proving” it will work is showing research and theory that supports your plan—and the testimony of experts.
14. For a counter argument, present possible objections or doubts about your solution.
15. Respond to possible objections.
16. **Conclusion**
17. A brief summary might remind readers of the benefits of your solution.
18. Usually a proposal essay ends with a call to action.
19. Other possible endings include:
20. Prediction. 2. A claim of universal significance of solution.