Problem Solution Essay Outline

I. Introduction
   1. Get the reader’s attention by using a “hook”. (e.g. Imagine... or ask a question)
   2. State the problem. (thesis)
      • There is a (big, substantial, terrible, annoying) problem of ____________ in (the world, our city, the United States, among teenagers, our schools) today.
        o Tell who is affected by (involved in) the problem.
        o Tell how those groups or people are affected.

II. 1st Solution
   1. State your first solution
      • To begin with...... OR One solution to this problem is....... 
   2. Explain how your solution will work & how it relates to the problem – use the 3e’s explain, expand, example

III. 2nd Solution
   1. State your second solution
      • Another solution to the problem of ______________ is....... 
        OR In addition ....
   2. Explain how your solution will work & how it relates to the problem – use the 3e’s explain, expand, example

IV. 3rd Solution
   1. State your third solution
      • Finally,... OR Lastly.... 
   2. Explain how your solution will work & how it relates to the problem – use the 3e’s explain, expand, example

V. Conclusion
   1. Provides closure to your essay
      • As you can see there is a terrible problem of ______________ in ______________ today. OR It is clear....
   2. End with a “zinger” that makes the reader think or smile (e.g. compelling statement, readers personal connection, question for the reader to think about)

   Transitional Words and Phrases
   Examples/Explanation: for instance, specifically, such as, to illustrate

   Addition: furthermore, in addition, additionally, as well, moreover

   Emphasis: most importantly, most important of all, indeed, in fact