AMERICAN HISTORY: EXAMPLES OF THESIS STATEMENTS AND TOPIC OUTLINES:

THESIS STATEMENT:

John Smith significantly influenced the course of American history through his masterful leadership of the Jamestown colony in the early 1600s.

TOPIC OUTLINE:

1. Biography of John Smith
2. Youth and education in England
3. Exploration and establishment of Jamestown settlement
4. Retirement and writings in England
5. Accomplishments of John Smith
6. Expert military and organizational control of new settlement
7. Friendly relationships with Native American population
8. Energetic leadership of struggling settlement
9. Influence of John Smith
10. Founded the first permanent English settlement in the New World
11. Determined the boundaries of the English settlement
12. Understood the potential of the New World settlements

THESIS STATEMENT:

The American Red Cross, established by Clara Barton in 1881, has greatly

expanded the scope of disaster relief, health and safety instruction and aid to American servicemen and veterans from World War I to the present.

TOPIC OUTLINE:

1. Establishment of the American Red Cross
2. Efforts of Clara Barton in the 19th century
3. Basic organization of the American Red Cross
4. International recognition of American Red Cross
5. Services of the American Red Cross
6. Provides training programs to civilians in first aid, nutrition and nursing
7. Coordinates blood bank program for military and civil defense situations
8. Operates disaster relief and rehabilitation services to stricken families
9. Impact of the American Red Cross nationally and internationally
10. Enrollment of thousands of school children in the American Junior Red Cross
11. Organization of local American relief groups under “umbrella” unit
12. Cooperation of international Red Cross societies in cases of disaster or war