

Summary Outline	Logical Outline	Explanatory Comments
OT Narrative Sample: Daniel 1		
Daniel and the King's Food (Dan. 1.1-21)	God proves faithful to his faithful servant (Dan. 1.1-21)	
I. Setting the scene (vv. 1-7)	I. Life turned dismal for a bright lad (vv. 1-7)	Background of undeserved hardship will make Daniel's performance all the more stellar.
A. Town and Temple are Plundered (vv. 1-2)	A. Foreign armies looted capitol and temple (vv. 1-2).	
B. People are Carried Off (vv. 3-7)	B. Then they even carried off people (vv. 3-7).	Progresses from material loss to loss of persons.
1. Qualities of Deportees (vv. 3-4)	1. Youths, the cream of the crop, were hauled off from home (vv. 3-4)...	Begins with brilliant future...
2. Training and Provisions for Deportees (v. 5)	2. ...Hauled off from daily food and school (v. 5)...	...leads to dislocation...
3. Names of Deportees (vv. 6-7)	3. ...And finally were stripped of their very names (vv. 6-7).	...and ends with pointing out the casualties by name. And even this most personal possession soon was obliterated. The picture is very bleak.
II. Daniel's Diet Test (vv. 8-17)	II. Despite the darkness of deportation, Daniel determined to honor God (vv. 8-17).	
A. Introduction of Diet (vv. 8-14)	A. Daniel dared to ask for an unauthorized diet (vv. 8-14).	Hope begins to glimmer from the unlikely dungeon of the downtrodden, but daring deportee.
B. Results of Diet (vv. 15-17)	B. The results were astounding, with God's help (vv. 15-17).	Surprise!
III. Daniel's Interview with King (vv. 18-20)	III. Even the king could not help but notice, and drafted them for his inner corps (vv. 18-20).	Royal evaluation further confirms the announcement of the diet's success. Not only physique, but Intellect as well was enhanced.
IV. Daniel's Term of Service (v. 21)	IV. And so Daniel remained in royal service until his graying years (v. 21)	The sense of God's blessing is reinforced as we learn that Daniel prospered in service for a long period of time. conveying God's lengthy blessing on his faithful servant.

Summary Outline	Logical Outline	Explanatory Comments
A Poetic Sample: Psalm 32		
The Blessedness of Forgiveness (Ps. 32.1-11)	Nothing feels so good as forgiveness! (Ps. 32.1-11)	
I. Introductory Exclamation Valuing Being Forgiven (vv. 1-2)	I. Nothing soars like a cleared conscience! (vv. 1-2)	
II. A Personal Recollection (vv. 3-6)	II. Let me explain: I remember when...(vv. 3-6).	Poet turns to explain his initial beatitude...
A. A Guilty Beginning (vv. 3-4)	A. When first I realized my guilt (vv. 3-4)...	...drawing on personal experience
1. Damage Physically (v. 3)	1. ...I kept quiet and paid a physical price (v. 3).	Initial denial of guilt hurt both without...
2. Damage Spiritually (v. 4)	2. ...I felt your conviction and withered (v. 4).	...and within.
B. A Forgiven Ending (v. 5)	B. Then I experienced relief (v. 5)	Resolution came...
1. Human Confession (v. 5a)	1. ...as I admitted my wrong (v. 5a)	...through pilgrim's confession...
2. Divine Forgiveness (v. 5b)	2. ...and you extended release (v. 5b)	...and through God's forgiveness.
C. A Divine Dialogue (vv. 6-9)	C. So God and I had this conversation: (vv. 6-9)	This lesson led to advice offered to others:
1. Pilgrim Recommends God (vv. 6-7)	1. "I [pilgrim] hope all your people turn to you for help--you surely are my protector!" (vv. 6-7)	Turn to God for help...
2. God Promises Guidance to Compliant (vv. 8-9)	2. "And I [God] will guide you, so long as you let me," (vv. 8-9).	...and he will guide you.
D. Character Summary (vv. 10-11)	D. In conclusion... (vv. 10-11)	A summary shows that...
1. Consequences of Wickedness (v. 10a)	1. The wicked will weep (v. 10a)...	...wicked lose...
2. Consequences of Righteous (vv. 10b-11)	2. ...while God's faithful ones celebrate! (vv. 10b-11)	...while righteous win.

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NT Narrative Sample: Mark 5.1-20		
Healing of a Demoniac (Mark 1-20)	Jesus overcomes, despite supposed foes and expected friends (Mark 1-20).	
I. Jesus and Demoniac (vv. 1-13)	I. Jesus transformed a demoniac to disciple (vv. 1-13).	
A. Description of Demoniac (vv. 1-5)	A. A horrific brute accosted Jesus, surely a foe (vv. 1-5).	This dreadful freak...
B. Demoniac's Encounter with Jesus (vv. 6-10)	B. But Jesus addressed the inner problem, who soon begged mercy (vv. 6-10)...	...Jesus saw past, and overpowered his inner captors...
C. Jesus' Deliverance of Demoniac (vv. 11-13)	C. ...And were diverted to a self-destructive death (vv. 11-13).	...exposing their self-destructive intentions.
II. Jesus and Townspeople (vv. 14-17)	II. Despite having evicted the demons, Jesus now suffered eviction by distrusting townspeople (vv. 14-17).	Paradoxically the miracle-deliverer was unappreciated, turned out by those one would expect would be his friends.
III. Jesus and Demoniac, Conclusion (vv. 18-20)	III. Undaunted, Jesus simply commissioned the new disciple to go where he could not (vv. 18-20).	Yet Jesus overcame this difficulty as well, sending his new friend to tell the story of God's deliverance where the Deliverer was unwelcome.

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Epistle Sample: Eph. 3.14-21		
Paul's Prayer (Eph. 3.14-21)	Here is what I am asking God, for you (Eph. 3.14-21).	
I. Paul's Picture of God (vv. 14-15)	I. The nature of the God to whom I appeal...(vv. 14-15)	After telling us how he views God...
A. God as Father (v. 14)	A. ...as personal Father (v. 14)...	...as head of...
B. All Earth as Family (v. 15)	B. ...of universally everyone [including you Gentiles]! (v. 15)	...the universal family,
II. Paul's Petitions of God (vv. 16-19)	II. So I request of him...(vv. 16-19)	Paul then makes his request...
A. Spiritual Strength (v. 16)	A. ... initially Spirit-sourced power (v. 16)...	...first, for strength...
B. Indwelling Christ (v. 17a)	B. ...necessary, if the Christ is still more importantly to reside in you (v. 17a).	...which appears to be a steppingstone to Christ's dwelling within;
C. Love-Grounding (v. 17b)	C. Secondarily I petition that love be your sole foundation (v. 17b)...	second, for an operating-environment of love...
D. Grasp of God's Love (vv. 18-19a)	D. ...necessary if penultimately you would grasp God's enormous love (v. 18-19a)...	...which appears to be a steppingstone to their comprehension of God's own love...
E. Filled with God's Fullness (v. 19b)	E. ...necessary in turn if you would ultimately become actualized in God (v. 19b)	...which appears a steppingstone to Paul's ultimate petition: all God's fullness fully in them.
III. Paul's Praise of God (vv. 20-21)	III. Anticipation of these blessings leads me to bless God, their source (vv. 20-21)	Visualization of these blessings in turn filled Paul with joy...
A. God's Great Ability (v. 20)	A. ... because of his boundless ability to answer prayer (v. 20)...	...convinced of God's ability to make these petitions a reality...
B. Glory to God (v. 21)	B. ... therefore honor should rise to him from all people for all time (v. 21).	...he urges praise of God in anticipation of their fulfillment.