Reverse Outline of Wohlsen's Article (Reference)

Topic: • Interested in the problem of how to define digital literacy. • Basically, Digital literacy is "the idea that the world's citizens, and kids in particular, will benefit if they're skilled in the ways of information technology." • But the problem is how to define exactly what technology skills kids actually need in the future. "Learning to code" is important, but it's not always clear what that really means.	State the topic or question the author is interested in.
Main Idea: • Wohlsen, using ideas from many experts in the technology and education fields, argues that skills in "computational thinking" or an "algorithmic mindset" are key to digital literacy. • Such thinking, informed by the logic of coding, will be crucial in a world driven by information technology, and not just for those involved directly in computer programming.	State the main message or argument. What does the author say about the topic?
Key Point #1 Content: Defining digital literacy is important to ensure the younger generation develops the skills they need in the future. Function: Justifies the importance of the topic and his article.	**Content:** Describe the key point. What does the author say? **Function:** Explain why this information has been included in the article? How does it help the author develop the main idea?
Key Point #2 Content: Skills in "computational thinking," including the ability to understand algorithm, can be applied outside the context of basic computer programming to solve larger social problems, especially in a world driven by data and information technology. Function: First reason why these are the skills key to digital literacy, and necessary for the next generation.	**Content:** Describe the key point. What does the author say? **Function:** Explain why this information has been included in the article? How does it help the author develop the main idea?

Critical Thinking and Comparison

Key Point #3 Content: With the critical thinking skills informed by the logic of "computational thinking" the next generation will be able to make technology do what they want it to do. Function: Second reason why these are the skills key to digital literacy, and necessary for the next generation.	**Content:** Describe the key point. What does the author say? **Function:** Explain why this information has been included in the article? How does it help the author develop the main idea?
Key Point #4 Content: Skills in "computational thinking" are critical thinking skills that show deep knowledge of the logic of coding. These must be distinguished from simply knowing how to use technology; we need to be creators rather than consumers. If we mistake the ability to use computers with the ability to think within the logic of coding, we risk missing the opportunity to provide true digital literacy. Function: Comparison to other approaches to digital literacy.	**Content:** Describe the key point. What does the author say? **Function:** Explain why this information has been included in the article? How does it help the author develop the main idea?
Key Point #5 Content: The limited skills base among teachers is one barrier to achieving this digital literacy. Function: Identifies limits to his argument about the skills needed for digital literacy.	**Content:** Describe the key point. What does the author say? **Function:** Explain why this information has been included in the article? How does it help the author develop the main idea?