

Sample Single Paragraph Outline

Topic Sentence: Gaslighting is a propaganda technique where a person blatantly lies, confuses, and deceives others to make them question reality in order to gain power or control over them.

- Detail 1: quality/impact of gaslighting → gaslighter denies reality to purposely confuse others

- Detail 2: example of gaslighting → politics: "Stalin called stories of the peasants' suffering 'fables'" (McCollum, p. 66) even though there were people dying in the streets from famine

- Detail 3: quality/impact of gaslighting → take advantage of what people value to earn their trust

- Detail 4: example of gaslighting → cults: Jim Jones convinces followers to give him everything and go to South America to build utopia, but instead "followers were subjected to harsh living conditions and punished" (History.com, para. 5) if they questioned him

Concluding Sentence: Overall, gaslighting is a powerful propaganda technique because gaslighters manipulate people into believing blatant lies by convincing them that their perceptions of reality are flawed and that the gaslighter is the only one who can be trusted to help them achieve their goals.
