Sample Problem Statement Outline

1. Background / Context

Provide a brief background or context for the research problem.

e.g., What is the broader topic or area? Why is it important?

2. Statement of the Problem

Clearly and concisely state the main research problem you intend to address.

e.g., What is not known, not understood, or not resolved?

3. Evidence of the Problem

- Present data, literature, or examples that illustrate the existence and significance of the problem.
- Highlight gaps, challenges, or limitations in existing knowledge or practice.

4. Rationale / Justification

Explain why it is important to address this problem.

e.g., Who will benefit? What will be improved or clarified?

5. Research Questions / Objectives

List the main research question(s) or objectives derived from the problem statement.

6. Scope and Limitations

Describe the scope of your research and acknowledge potential limitations.

7. Definition of Key Terms (Optional)

Define important or ambiguous terms used in the problem statement (if applicable).