OUTLINE - Patriotism Definition Essay

I. Introduction
   A. Attention getter: Traditional definition of patriotism (as perceived in an image)
   B. Thesis: Patriotism is speaking out when a person feels the country is right or wrong, voting, campaigning, and respecting others.

II. Body
   A. Speaking out when country is wrong
      1. Vietnam
      2. Slavery
      3. Women’s right to vote
   B. Speaking out when country is right
      1. Afghanistan
      2. Health care
   C. Voting
      1. Making a choice based on one’s needs
      2. Being involved in the voting process
   D. Campaigning
      1. Finding a candidate who represents country’s needs
      2. Barbara Boxer from California
   E. Respecting others
      1. Paying taxes.
      2. Respecting others’ points of view
      3. Arab-American prejudice after 9/11.

III. Conclusion
   A. Review of patriot as protestor, voter, and respectful citizen.
   B. Closing attention getter: return to introduction's image of patriot

ESSAY example - patriotism
Sample definition essay - patriotism - This essay was written from the above outline
http://www.northland.cc.mn.us/owl/Definition%20essay.htm

Here's another sample definition essay that has a completely different tone and approach.
Sample definition essay - 'online-aholic'
http://www.thewritesource.com/studentmodels/wi-net_addiction.htm