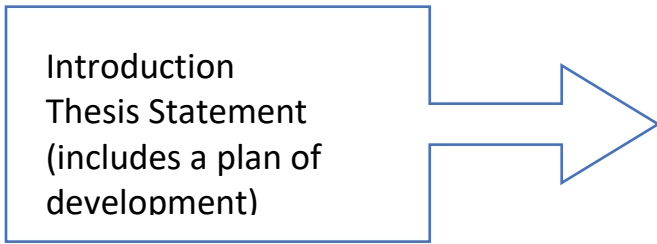


Basic format for an Essay

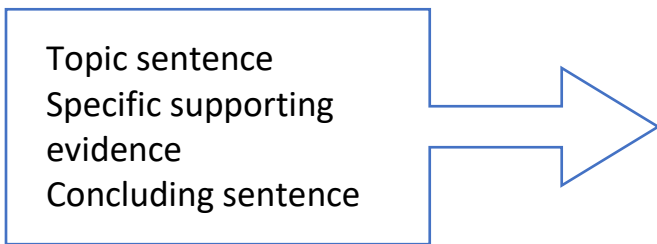
Introductory Paragraph



The **introduction** attracts the reader's interest.

The **thesis** presents the central idea of the paper and includes a **plan of development**—a short statement of the main supporting points of your thesis.

First supporting Paragraph

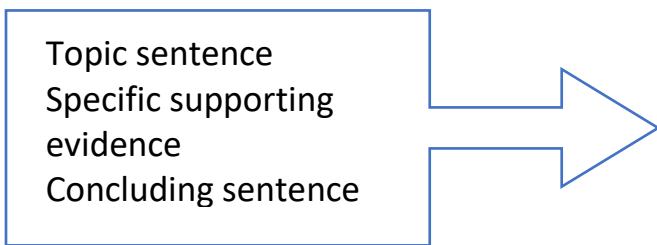


The **topic sentence** presents the first supporting point for the thesis.

The **specific evidence** develops that first point but doesn't introduce a new idea.

The **concluding sentence** wraps-up your idea and might include a transition to the next idea.

Second Supporting Paragraph

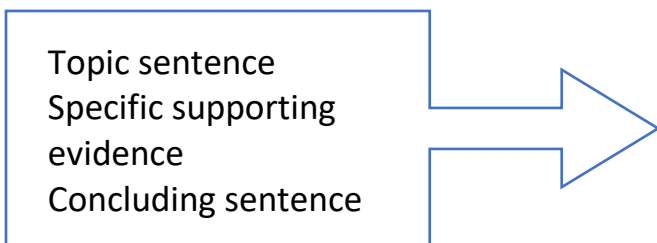


The **topic sentence** presents the second supporting point for the thesis.

The **specific evidence** develops that second point but doesn't introduce a new idea.

The **concluding sentence** wraps-up your idea and might include a transition to the next idea.

Third Supporting Paragraph

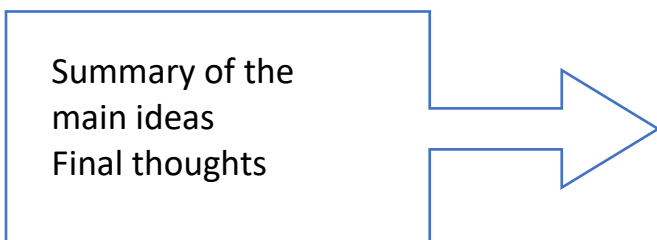


The **topic sentence** presents the third supporting point for the thesis.

The **specific evidence** develops that third point but doesn't introduce a new idea.

The **concluding sentence** wraps-up your idea.

Concluding Paragraph



A **summary** is a brief restatement of your thesis and the main supporting points. The conclusion might also include your final thoughts on the importance or significance of your paper.

Form for writing your essay:

Introductory Paragraph

Opening remarks _____

Thesis statement _____

First supporting Paragraph

Topic sentence _____

Supporting details _____

Wrap-up _____

Second Supporting Paragraph

Topic sentence _____

Supporting details _____

Wrap-up _____

Third Supporting Paragraph

Topic sentence _____

Supporting details _____

Wrap-up _____

Concluding Paragraph

Adapted from *Ten Skills You Really Need to Succeed in College* by John Langan