

Model of an Essay-the Core Structure

Paragraph 1

Thesis Sentence

- Fully addresses the question asked-has a subject (developed from the question)
- Takes a position with regard to the question asked
- Provides organizational categories that will be used to order the supporting paragraphs

Paragraph 2

Sentence 1: Topic Sentence

- First organizing category/theme of the thesis
- Relates to the thesis
- Strongest argument

Sentence 2: Relevant Facts, Information, Examples

- Logically organized evidence with interpretative commentary that supports the thesis
- Need to state how and why all factual information relates to thesis
- As many sentences as you need to develop the category/theme and prove your thesis

Last sentence-clincher

- Ties the paragraph together and links it back to the thesis

Paragraph 3

Sentence 1: Topic Sentence

- Second organizing category/theme of the thesis
- Relates to the thesis
- Second strongest argument

Sentence 2: Relevant Facts, Information, Examples

- Logically organized evidence with interpretative commentary that supports the thesis
- Need to state how and why all factual information relates to thesis
- As many sentences as you need to develop the category/theme and prove your thesis

Last sentence-clincher

- Ties the paragraph together and links it back to the thesis

Paragraph 4

Sentence 1: Topic Sentence

- Third organizing category/theme of the thesis
- Relates to the thesis
- Third strongest argument

Sentence 2: Relevant Facts, Information, Examples

- Logically organized evidence with interpretative commentary that supports the thesis
- Need to state how and why all factual information relates to thesis
- As many sentences as you need to develop the category/theme and prove your thesis

Last sentence-clincher

- Ties the paragraph together and links it back to the thesis

Paragraph 5

Conclusion: Thesis restated

- In different order (reverse)