



Basic Essay Structure

I. The Introduction

- A. Introduce subject, create interest, and present thesis
- B. Utilize background information to set the tone of your argument

II. The Body Paragraphs

- A. Develop and support your thesis
 1. Present the evidence and analysis to support your argument
 2. Each paragraph should clearly support the thesis statement
- B. Topic Sentences
 1. A statement at the beginning of a paragraph that explicitly defines the parameters of the paragraph
 2. Insures unity throughout the paragraph by implying a theme

III. Conclusion

- A. Should restate the thesis
- B. Sum up all points made in the essay