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