

Structuring Your Essay

Thesis Paragraph	<p><u>Background:</u> 1 - 3 sentences briefly summarize why the situation has come up</p> <p><u>Thesis statement:</u> 1 sentence addresses the <u>full</u> prompt, and takes a <u>clear position</u></p> <p><u>Preview:</u> 1 sentence the major reasons your thesis is right, in the order in which you will address them</p> <hr/>
First Body Paragraph	<p>First <u>major</u> reason your thesis is right. Explanation Details Examples</p> <hr/>
Second Body Paragraph	<p>Second <u>major</u> reason your thesis is right. Explanation Details Examples</p> <hr/>
Third Body Paragraph (if appropriate)	<p>Third <u>major</u> reason your thesis is right. Explanation Details Examples</p> <hr/>
Conclusion	<p>Revisits and confirms the thesis, but does not just restate it.</p> <p>Ties in to <u>future</u> developments, or the larger picture. Puts the topic in perspective.</p> <hr/>