



## Traditional Five Paragraph Essay Structure

### 1. Introduction

- *Hook*: This is the first sentence of the essay that should grab the reader's attention. It can be a quotation, a startling fact, a rhetorical question, or an interesting statement related to the topic.
- *Background Information*: This provides context for the topic at hand. It sets the stage and prepares the reader for what is to follow.
- *Thesis Statement*: The main argument or point of the essay. It is usually one sentence long and outlines the three main points (which will become the topics of your three body paragraphs) that support your argument.

### 2. Body Paragraph 1

- *Topic Sentence*: This introduces the main idea of the paragraph, and it directly relates to and supports the thesis statement.
- *Supporting Evidence*: This part includes facts, statistics, quotes, examples, and other data that support the main idea of the paragraph.
- *Explanation*: The writer explains how the supporting evidence backs up the topic sentence and ties it back to the thesis.
- *Concluding Sentence*: This wraps up the paragraph and leads into the next main idea.

### 3. Body Paragraph 2

- *Topic Sentence*: Similar to the first body paragraph, this sentence introduces the main idea of the second body paragraph that supports the thesis statement.
- *Supporting Evidence*: Again, this includes details, data, facts, or examples that back up the main idea of the paragraph.
- *Explanation*: The writer explains how the evidence supports the topic sentence and links it back to the thesis.
- *Concluding Sentence*: This concludes the paragraph and transitions to the next main idea.

### 4. Body Paragraph 3

- *Topic Sentence*: This sentence introduces the final main idea that supports the thesis statement.
- *Supporting Evidence*: This includes more details, facts, or examples that bolster the main idea of the paragraph.
- *Explanation*: The writer explains how the evidence backs the topic sentence and connects it back to the thesis.
- *Concluding Sentence*: This wraps up the last body paragraph and can provide a transition to the conclusion.

### 5. Conclusion

- *Restatement of Thesis*: This is not simply a repeat of the thesis statement from the introduction, but rather a reaffirmation of the thesis in light of the evidence presented in the body paragraphs.
- *Summary of Main Points*: This is a brief recap of the main ideas from each of the body paragraphs.
- *Final Thoughts/Closing Statement*: The essay should end on a strong note. This could be a broader statement about the topic, a call to action, or a prediction for future research or outcomes.

Remember, this is a traditional structure for an essay and works well for many types of essays and topics. However, depending on your specific assignment or purpose, you might need to adapt or expand this structure.