

Name _____ Per _____

Paragraph #1 INTRODUCTION – 3-4 sentences

1. **Hook** (interesting statement, Quote, fact) NO CLAIM YET!
2. **Background** (describe the issue) NO CLAIM YET!
Opponents say . . . , but others say . . .
3. **Thesis / Claim** (Answer the prompt and state the claim)
We should because 1) . . . 2) . . . 3)(Do NOT use the #s!!) . . .

Paragraph #2 BODY 5-7 sentences for your strongest justification WHY

4. **Topic Sentence** (general sentence about your position)
There are several reasons why . . .
5. **Evidence #1 for reason 1** (if researching Quote one source)
One reason is that . . .
6. **Commentary - Explain further (don't repeat)**
When . . .
7. **Evidence #2** (if researching Quote a different source)
Another reason is that . . .
8. **Commentary - Explain further (don't repeat)**
Since . . .
9. **Evidence #3** (ONLY If you have more evidence)
Last, . . .
10. **Commentary - Explain further (don't repeat)**
Even though. . . [must have two sentences with a comma to avoid fragments]
11. **Concluding sentence** (Sum up your information)
As we can see, . . .

Paragraph #3 Less important justifications 2 and 3 from your thesis

1. **Topic Sentence** (general sentence about your position)
As a personal example, (it's okay to use "I" or "my" here)
2. **Evidence #2** (if researching Quote a different source)
Another reason is that . . .

3. Commentary - Explain further (don't repeat) Since . . .
4. Evidence #3 (ONLY If you have more evidence) Last, . . .
5. Evidence #4 (Quote one source) This shows . . .
6. Commentary +Concluding sentence Obviously, . . .

Paragraph # 4 COUNTER ARGUMENT

1. Topic Sentence (State the other side's strongest reason) Some say that . . .
2. Reason for the opposing side(counter with evidence/logic) They say this because . . .
3. Rebuttal (refute other side) This isn't (logical, the only solution) since . . .
4. Concluding sentence (restate your position) Hence, . . .

Paragraph #4 CONCLUSION

1. Concluding Sentence (Summarize your claim, but don't copy your thesis) Overall,
2. Background (point out your strongest two arguments) The best reason for this is . . .
3. Contrast the opposition (point out your best defense against the other side) Something we . . ., but in contrast we should . . .
4. Call to Action (invite the reader to support you) and/or Dire Warning (Warn what might happen) We should [not] . . .

- Avoid "I think", "I believe" and "you" (try "We should")
- Address all 3 reasons and give logical reasoning to convince the reader
- Address the other side by pointing out how they are inaccurate or not the only option (Rebuttal)!