

The Structure of an Essay

Introduction Paragraph #1:

Sentence 1: Make it an interesting [grabber](#). Use a question, create a word picture, but get the reader's attention. **Sentence 2:** Restate the question in sentence form. This will keep the paper focused. **Sentence 3:** This is a sentence about your first reason, argument, or example. **Sentence 4:** Another sentence stating the second reason, argument, or example. **Sentence 5:** One more sentence stating your final reason, argument, or example. (You can combine your 3rd, 4th, and 5th sentences) **Sentence 6:** This is the concluding sentence that should lead into the next paragraph.

Body Paragraphs #2, #3, and #4: (Use [Transitions](#) and [Descriptive words](#))

Sentence 1: Start by using a transition word in combination with a restatement of the question. (i.e., The first reason that I.....)
Sentence 2: Develop your example in these next few sentences. Give evidence and expand on it. This is the place to show off some of your vocabulary. A little [well-placed humor and creativity](#) will definitely add to the quality of the paper. **Final Sentence:** Sum up, recapitulate and try to introduce the next paragraph.

Conclusion Paragraph #5:(Use Transitions)

Sentence 1: Restate your topic in words that are different from those in the introduction. **Sentence 2 & 3:** [Summarize](#), [recapitulate](#), pull all you've said in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 together. Draw a one sentence conclusion. **Sentence 4 or the final sentence:** End with a "zinger" that will make the reader think or smile about what you have written.