**Intro**:

1. Immediately engage reader (**attention getter**)

* Give a startling statistic or give a short story about the topic.

1. Establish **context** (topic of essay)

 usually 2-3 sentences

* Gives information about your topic/issue
* This part helps narrow down to the point of the paper

1. Strong & complete **thesis statement: What is your stance on this issue**

**1st Body Para**: **Supporting Your Thesis**

* Begin paragraphs with a clear, concise **topic sentence that explains one (1st) reason to support your thesis (your stance on the issue)**
* Use **concrete details** **(CD)**

 these include facts or quotes from a different source.

 cite sources your source

* Create insightful **commentary** to support concrete details (how does this concrete detail support your stance on the issue?)
* shoot for at least 2 CD per paragraph (+ commentary)
* Concluding sentence that relates to thesis

**2nd Body Para**: **Supporting Your Thesis**

* Begin paragraphs with a clear, concise **topic sentence that explains one (2nd) reason to support your thesis (your stance on the issue)**
* Use **concrete details** **(CD)**

 these include facts or quotes from a different source.

 cite sources your source

* Create insightful **commentary** to support concrete details (how does this concrete detail support your stance on the issue?)
* shoot for at least 2 CD per paragraph (+ commentary)
* Concluding sentence that relates to thesis

**3rd Body Para: Address Opposition**

* Begin paragraphs with a clear, concise **topic sentence (addressing what those who are against your stance might think, or say to argue your stance)**
* include a rebuttal defending your thesis
* Use **concrete details** **(CD)**

 these include facts or quotes

 cite source

* Create insightful **commentary** to support concrete detail (how does this concrete detail support your stance on the issue?)
* Concluding sentence that relates to thesis

**Conclusion**:   
\*Transition into summary of key points

\*Restate thesis (say it another way!)

\*Answer “So what?”

 Leave reader feeling persuaded or at least challenged

 This personal comment can include a universal observation   
(a prediction), a call to action (a recommendation) or a scare   
(a veiled threat)

**Suggested sentence starter for commentary:**

“This shows that…” (eventually teach kids to eliminate it)

“This proves that…”

“This demonstrates that…”

**Suggested sentence starters for counter:**

“On the other hand, some people believe \_\_\_\_\_\_...”   
“One may argue \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; however, \_\_\_\_\_...”

**Suggested sentence starters for conclusion:**

“We need to…”

“It’s our responsibility to …”

“It’s important to…”

“In order to\_\_\_\_\_\_, we must…”

“It would be to our benefit to…”

**Encourage**:   
Incorporate transitions   
Use high-level vocab

Vary sentence patterns   
Create a strong “voice”

Show a logical argument throughout  
Edit well