Research Paper Body Paragraph Outline

Thesis: Type out your thesis statement as a complete sentence

I. Topic Sentence 1—connects directly to thesis and is arguable

A. 1st Restrict Sentence: What is the first thing your evidence will prove about your topic sentence?

1. 1st Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove your 1st restrict will appear here

2. 1st Analysis sentences: What does this quote show or prove about the restrict/topic sentence?

3. Transition sentence or phrase (move to your next point)

B. 2nd Restrict Sentence: What is the next thing your evidence will prove about your topic sentence?

1. 2nd Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove your 2nd restrict will appear here

2. 2nd Analysis sentences: What does this quote show or prove about the restrict/topic sentence?

3. Clincher/Transition Sentence to next point

II. Topic Sentence 2—connects directly to thesis and is arguable

A. 1st Restrict Sentence: What is the first thing your evidence will prove about your topic sentence?

1. 1st Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove your 1st restrict will appear here

2. 1st Analysis sentences: What does this quote show or prove about the restrict/topic sentence?

3. Transition sentence or phrase (move to your next point)

B. 2nd Restrict Sentence: What is the next thing your evidence will prove about your topic sentence?

1. 2nd Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove your 2nd restrict will appear here

2. 2nd Analysis sentences: What does this quote show or prove about the restrict/topic sentence?

3. Clincher/Transition Sentence to next point

III. Topic Sentence 3—connects directly to thesis and is arguable

A. 1st Restrict Sentence: What is the first thing your evidence will prove about your topic sentence?

1. 1st Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove your 1st restrict will appear here

2. 1st Analysis sentences: What does this quote show or prove about the restrict/topic sentence?

3. Transition sentence or phrase (move to your next point)

B. 2nd Restrict Sentence: What is the next thing your evidence will prove about your topic sentence?

1. 2nd Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove your 2nd restrict will appear here

2. 2nd Analysis sentences: What does this quote show or prove about the restrict/topic sentence?

3. Clincher/Transition Sentence to next point

IV. Counter Argument/Refutation Topic Sentence

A. Counter Claim: What statement is made against your thesis? Introduce the opposing side’s arguments. You are acknowledging the other point of view.

1. 1st Illustrate sentence: Provide evidence of the counter here to back up the counter claim with a quotation or paraphrase of evidence from an expert.

2. 1st Analysis sentences: Discuss the counter, explain the evidence and/or provide an example of what it is saying.

3. Concession (acknowledge the other side’s validity in a respectful way

B. Refutation: Return to your own argument to tell why your argument is stronger than the counter. State the reason why the objection (counterargument) is wrong.

1. 2nd Illustrate sentence: The quote to prove refutation appears here

2. 2nd Analysis sentences: Discuss the refutation, explain why the evidence is important.

3. Clincher/ Conclusion Sentence: State what conclusion can be made.