

Essay Structure Review: Student: _____ 3/17/2021

Essay Structure Parts: - All essays have the following parts: a main body, conclusion, introduction, background information, a thesis statement, topic sentences, supporting sentences, & conclusion sentences

Essays are an important way of communicating a variety of ideas to a wide audience. But first before one begins to write an essay always try to think deeply about both your audience and your topic. In other words, brainstorm some ideas on a sheet of paper then use those ideas to formulate an outline for an essay. Basically, most academic essays have three parts: **an introduction, a main body, and a conclusion.**

The introduction paragraph is essential for any type of essay for the following reasons. First of all, a **hook** is used to grab the attention of a reader. Next, **background sentences** are used to introduce the essay topic. Finally, a **thesis statement** is buried at the middle or end of the introduction paragraph as the controlling idea of the entire essay. The thesis statement is usually one to two sentences that briefly introduce the main arguments of your essay.

Directly following the introduction paragraph is the **main body** of the essay. Each paragraph in the essay usually starts with a **topic sentence** (ts). The ts is the main idea of a paragraph and it should be related to one of the main arguments in an essay. Following the ts are **supporting sentences** (ss), which are examples, facts or explanations to support the main idea of a paragraph. Finally, a **conclusion sentence** (cs) is used in most paragraphs to briefly summarize one main point.

The last paragraph in an essay is the **conclusion paragraph** (cp). The cp summarizes all the main ideas of the essay in a few sentences. Also, it can rephrase the thesis statement in different words. Next, the writer provides some brief insights or predictions about the essay topic, or problem. For example, if you want to improve your essay writing carefully reread all the readings a teacher gives you in class. Make writing a daily habit wherever you go. Lastly, revise the sentences in any essay you write so that they are clear and easy to read.