**Essay Structure**

**Introduction Paragraph:**

* Topic Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Concluding Sentence

**Support Paragraph:**

* Topic Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Concluding Sentence

**Support Paragraph:**

* Topic Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Concluding Sentence

**Support Paragraph:**

* Topic Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Concluding Sentence

**Conclusion Paragraph:**

* Topic Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Support Sentence
* Concluding Sentence

**Paragraph Structure**

Three Criteria for Topic Sentences

Overall, when we write a topic sentence for an academic paragraph using the “sandwich model” we need to consider three criteria:

1. The topic sentence should indicate the author's main idea on a topic.
2. The main idea should require explanation or defense; it should not simply state a fact or obvious observation about the topic.
3. The topic sentence should not include supporting details, such as explanations, facts, or quotations.

Supporting Sentences:

In the body of an academic paragraph, academic writers can support, develop, and strengthen the main idea in various ways:

* explaining,
* describing,
* listing facts,
* providing examples, and
* quoting.

Concluding Sentences:

The concluding sentence is the third and final component of an academic paragraph in the “sandwich model”. Concluding sentences aim to accomplish three things:

1. Indicate the end of the paragraph,
2. reinforce the main idea (and, possibly, key supporting points) of the paragraph, and
3. clarify the significance of the main idea.
4. Link to next paragraph