

***Writing an essay-
a few tips..***



Introduction

- Grab the attention / state theme
 - Thesis S

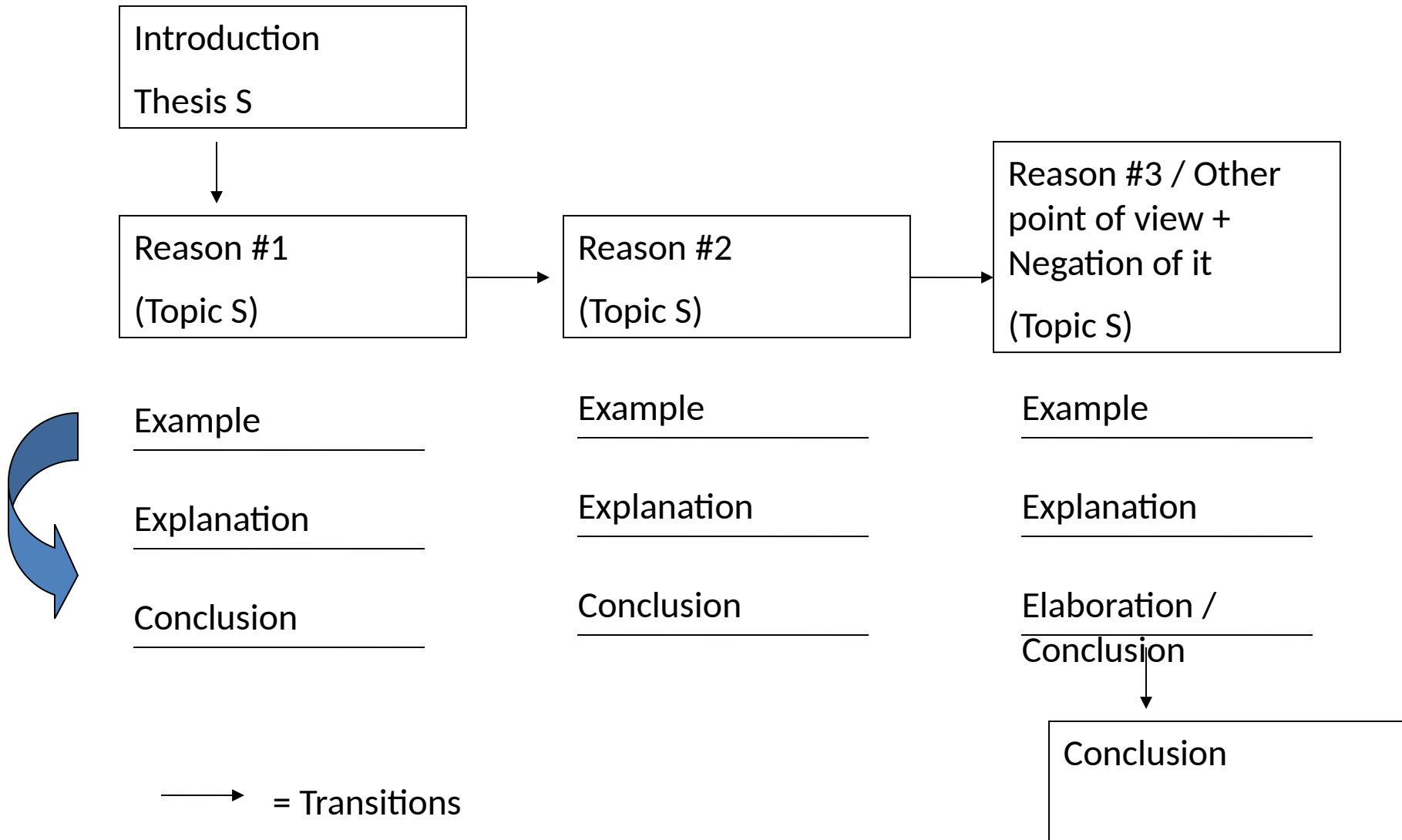
Body

- Convince / Explain
 - Supporting Details

Conclusion

- Refer to Thesis / Indicate / Suggest

The basic structure - writing a five paragraph essay



Introduction

General Statement
(Attention grabber)

Limit the sentence
Thesis Statement

Introduction

Ways To Grab Attention :

- Use an engaging Quotation
- Make an unexpected/ controversial statement
- State a common belief and declare a contrary view.
- Ask a / series of provocative questions.
- Provide an unusual fact / statistics
- Tell an anecdote/ story/ personal experience and connect
- Define an important term
- An interesting analogy

Introduction

- **Thesis Statement**

Main idea in an essay(Central idea) + writer's point view

e.g. :

Statement : Competition exists in every sphere of life.

Mass media is becoming popular in India

Thesis S : Competition , which exists in every sphere of life, is necessary for growth.

Mass media is becoming popular in India and it plays a responsible role.

Introduction

Don'ts :

- Do not say what you are going to do- let your writing show it. — I make an attempt to...
- Do not start with — I agree , According to me, yes, I personally believe.
- Do not give examples/ supporting details in the introduction.
- Do not write a too long or too short introduction.

Introduction

Do's:

- Prepare a 'catchy beginning' – a general orientation to the subject.
- Connect the base to your topic by becoming specific
- Use a thesis statement- main idea and your views on it.

Body Paragraphs

▪ **Body P 1**



• **Body P 2**



• **Body P3**

Body Paragraph 1

■ Body Paragraph 1 (Paragraph Frame):

- Topic sentence (the most important reason that supports your Thesis statement)
1
- Evidence (specific example, detail, or reason that “proves” the topic sentence)
1-2
- Commentary (interpretation of how the example relates to the topic sentence.) [THOUGHT] 2-3
- *Additional supporting sentences with evidence and commentary.*
2
- Concluding sentence – Rephrase / relate to Topic S 1

Body Paragraph 2

- Topic sentence: [State your observations that support the thesis S]
- Evidence: [Provide an example].
- Commentary: [How does your evidence relate to your thesis – controlling idea]
- *Evidence 2:*
- *Commentary: [Relate to thesis...]*
- Concluding Sentence: Rephrases your main idea/observation

Body Paragraph 3

- Topic sentence: [Acknowledge the counter view against the thesis
S] 2
- Evidence: [Provide an example]. 1-2
- Commentary: [State how the counter view is not strong enough as
against your view.] -3
- Concluding Sentence: Assert your main idea/observation.
-1

Transitions

- Transitions are the links between paragraphs (and sentences/ideas) that help the reader follow the main line of thought.

Some common standard devices:

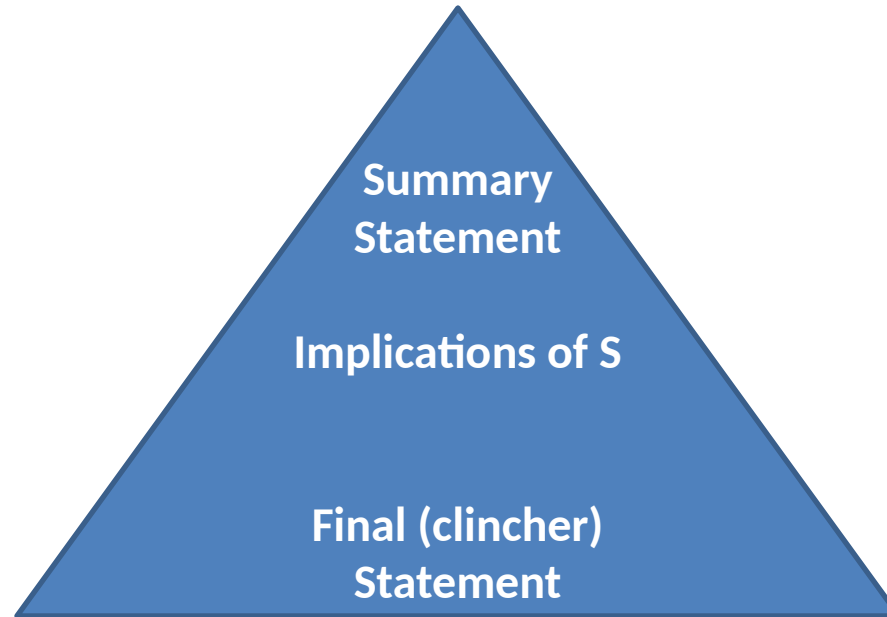
Transitions to emphasize a point	Transitions to clarify	Transitions to add information	Transitions to conclude or summarize
again, for this reason, indeed, in fact, to emphasize, to repeat, truly	because of, for example, for instance, in other words, put another way, that is	again, also, additionally, another, besides, equally important, for example, furthermore, moreover, further, in addition, next, finally, as well, together with, along with	As a result, consequently, thus, therefore, due to, in short

Conclusion

The conclusion needs to wrap up things and allow the reader to withdraw gracefully.

- Rephrase the thesis statement
- Sum up the main arguments .
- End with a general statement that leaves an impression on the reader (a clincher).

Conclusion



Conclusion

Summary Statement:

Don'ts :

- Do not write : ‘ I would like to conclude’, ‘ In conclusion’, ‘I have tried to show’
- Do not repeat the sentences / phrases used in Introduction

Do's:

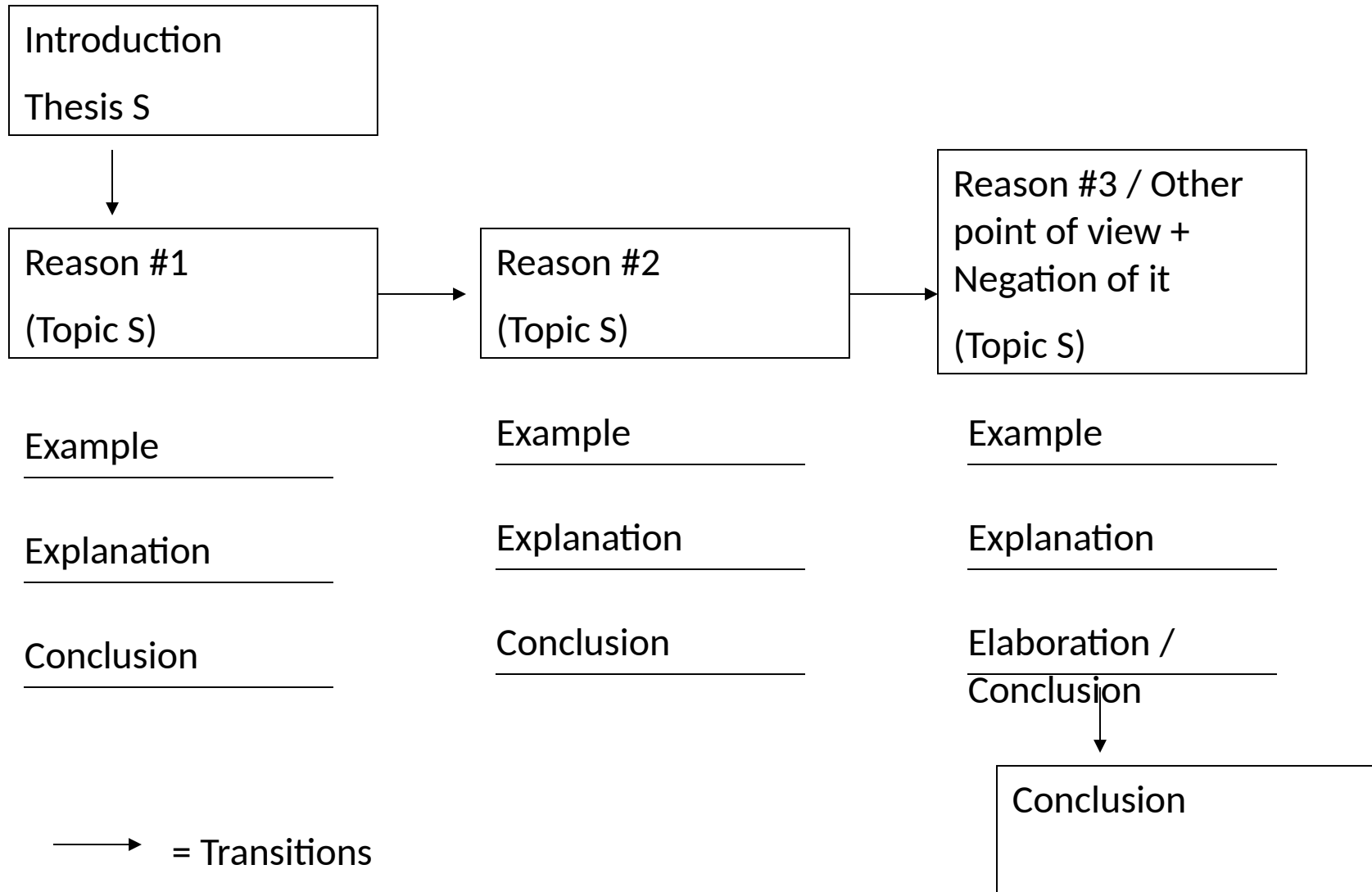
- Reinforce the main idea using a logical connection/ refer back to beginning idea
- e.g: Life is full of competitions and there is no point in running away from it. The best way would be to learn from our failures and win the next time.

Conclusion

Ways to end (a clincher):

- Return to the beginning idea (complete the circle)
- Offer a recommendation / suggestion
- Make a prediction
- Use an engaging quotation
- Ask a provocative question
- Invite the readers to relate the topic to their lives
- End with an anecdote

The basic structure for writing a five paragraph essay



General Instructions

- Don'ts:
- Informal / colloquial/ slang language
- Sub-headings
- Underlining important points
- Numbering of paragraphs
- Abbreviations
- SMS language
- Illegible hand writing

General Instructions

- Do's:
- Five paragraphs
- Thesis Statement
- Topic Sentences
- Use transitions to connect
- Space between paragraphs
- Catchy beginning and a clincher

Sample Essay Topics

- * Are nuclear weapons global peacemakers or potential threat to humanity?
- * Information driven age is creating insensitive human beings out of us.
- * Competition is a key to success
- * Censorship is a necessity for the welfare of the society