**I. Introduction Paragraph**

A. Hook: W*hat type of hook do you want to use? A shocking statistic? A quote? A short story?*

B. Background Info: B*riefly explain the issue you are going to write about. Remember you aren’t getting into your argument yet. You want to explain the issue, but readers shouldn’t know which position you are arguing for until they get to your thesis.*

C. Significance of Issue: *You should show why this paper needs to be written. What is being debated, is not resolved, or is not yet fully understood? Why does this issue matter?*

D. Thesis: *End your introduction by clearly stating your thesis (also called your claim or your position).*

**II. Body Paragraph #1**

A. Topic Sentence = Supporting Reason—*the first reason readers should accept your claim/thesis*

B. Evidence—*Which quotes from your sources do you think would effectively support this reason?*

C. Explain—*Why does this evidence support your claim? (Remember, explanation and analysis may take several sentences. Make sure your readers understand the evidence in the way you want.)*

D. Tieback—*Reinforce how this paragraph supports your main claim/thesis.*

**III. Body Paragraph #2**

A. Topic Sentence = Supporting Reason—*the second reason readers should accept your claim/thesis*

B. Evidence—*Which quotes from your sources do you think would effectively support this reason?*

C. Explain—*Why does this evidence support your claim? (Remember, explanation and analysis may take several sentences. Make sure your readers understand the evidence in the way you want.)*

D. Tieback— *Reinforce how this paragraph supports your main claim/thesis.*

**IV. Body Paragraph #3**

A. Topic Sentence = Supporting Reason—*the third reason readers should accept your claim/thesis*

B. Evidence—*Which quotes from your sources do you think would effectively support this reason?*

C. Explain—*Why does this evidence support your claim? (Remember, explanation and analysis may take several sentences. Make sure your readers understand the evidence in the way you want.)*

D. Tieback— *Reinforce how this paragraph supports your main claim/thesis.*

**V. Concession Paragraph: Acknowledging and Dealing with Another Perspective**

A. Acknowledge another perspective—*Why would people disagree with you or have concerns about your position? (To appear fair and unbiased, you should be fair to others’ ideas. Acknowledge their strongest points.)*

B. Deal with another perspectives—*What is your response to the other perspective? Despite its strong points, why is this perspective less convincing than the position you are presenting?*

**VI. Conclusion**

Your conclusion should answer the question “So what?” Show your readers why this paper was important, meaningful, and useful. Give your readers something to think about, such as how to apply the paper to their lives or how to use your paper in the “real world.”

Possible strategies for a conclusion:

1. **Echoing the introduction.** Echoing your introduction can be a good strategy to bring the readers full circle. If you begin by describing a scenario, you can end with the same scenario as proof that your paper was helpful in creating a new understanding.
2. **Challenging the reader.** By issuing a challenge to your readers, you are helping them to redirect the information in the paper, and they may apply it to their own lives.
3. **Looking to the future.** Looking to the future can emphasize the importance of your paper and redirect the readers’ thought processes. It may help them apply the new information to their lives or see things more globally.

**Works Cited**

*On the final page of your paper, include an alphabetized list of all your sources presented in MLA format.*