How to Write an Essay

# **Introduction**

***First sentence:*** **Hook:** first sentence that catches the reader’s attention

***Second sentence***: **Thesis:** This is what you are arguing. It is a statement that is very firm in opinion (no room for “maybe”)

***Third sentence***: **Directional Statement:** write a sentence listing the three body paragraphs

***Fourth sentence:* Concluding Sentence:** write a final statement to sum up your introduction.

# **Body Paragraphs (3)**

***First sentence:*** **Topic sentence:** The sentence that states the topic of the paragraph. Each body paragraph should follow the order of the directional statement. The first topic sentence is the first item in the directional statement, the second sentence is the second item in the directional statement, and so on.

***Second sentence:*** **First Argument**: In your own words, state your argument that you will later prove by backing up your idea with evidence.

***Third sentence:*** **Evidence** (quote, statement, data…)

***Fourth – Sixth sentence:*** **Explaining** the quote and how it relates to your thesis and your argument. Don’t try to cram this all into one sentence. Fully explain your thoughts in a few sentences.

# **Conclusion**

***First sentence:*** **Purpose** of the essay. Why are you writing this essay?

***Second sentence:*** **Restate your thesis** in different words.

***Third-Fifth sentence:*** **Directional Statement**: we word your directional statement in at least three sentences

***Sixth sentence:* Final Concluding Sentence**. Make sure not to introduce any new ideas anywhere in your conclusion.