

Content and Organization

- I. Introduction - general overview of the issue
 - ✓ Give background information / Introduce the topic you will be explaining in the paper
 - ✓ State your position on the topic
 - ✓ Briefly describe the reasons you're arguing for this position (the 3-4 subtopics you use in the body section)
- II. Body - focus on developing your paragraphs around **IDEAS** rather than sources. Use the readings (and personal experience if applicable) to support your main ideas.
 - A. **Idea 1**
 - ✓ Explain your first reason for your argument
 - ✓ Describe how the texts support this reason for your argument
 - ✓ Conclude this paragraph by explaining how this reason validates your argument
 - B. **Idea 2**
 - ✓ Explain your first reason for your argument
 - ✓ Describe how the texts support this reason for your argument
 - ✓ Conclude this paragraph by explaining how this reason validates your argument
 - C. **Idea 3**
 - ✓ Explain your first reason for your argument
 - ✓ Describe how the texts support this reason for your argument
 - ✓ Conclude this paragraph by explaining how this reason validates your argument
 - D. **[Idea 4]**
 - ✓ Explain your first reason for your argument
 - ✓ Describe how the texts support this reason for your argument
 - ✓ Conclude this paragraph by explaining how this reason validates your argument
- III. Conclusion - Remind readers of the purpose of your paper. Recap how the authors have helped better explain the issue developed in your essay

Remember: You can use as many paragraphs as you need for each part of the paper.