

*This is a generic shell of an outline.*

### **Introductory paragraph**

- Thesis statement (does not have to be the first sentence!)
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence

### **Paragraph 2**

- Topic sentence (does not have to be the first sentence!) The topic sentence may, but does not have to, be related to one of the supporting sentences in your first paragraph. In other words, this paragraph can (but doesn't have to) expand on an idea presented in the first paragraph.
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence

### **Paragraph 3**

- Topic sentence (does not have to be the first sentence!)
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence

### **Paragraph 4**

- Topic sentence (does not have to be the first sentence!)
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence
  - Supporting sentence

### **Conclusion**

The conclusion should not state any new information. Rather, it should paraphrase and/or summarize the main points of the essay. In other words, it should state what has already been said in a new, more condense way.