## Structure outline for essays

### Introduction:
- Begin your paper with an **opening sentence** or “**hook**” about your topic that catches the reader’s attention.
- Include **context**: provide the information the reader will need to understand the topic;
- State your **thesis**, your arguable position on the topic. *What side will you take? What will you prove in your paper? What are you going to explore?*

### Include this in every Body paragraph:
- Write a general **topic sentence** that states the main idea of the paragraph for your first body paragraph, or for one you are having difficulty organising.
- Write down the specific textual **evidence** or evidence you are using to support your thesis.
- Analyse your evidence: tell the reader what is significant or important about this evidence. *How does the piece of evidence support your thesis? Why did you choose to include it?*
- Don’t forget a **transition sentence**: Connect each paragraph with a sentence or two that demonstrates how each idea leads into the next.

### Conclusion:
- Make connections for your reader in your **conclusion**. You should refer back to your thesis, but don’t simply restate it. Use some of the following questions to guide you:  
  - *Did you propose any solutions? Are there solutions yet to be discovered?*
  - *What questions still need to be answered?*
  - *What is the larger significance of the topic you chose to write about?*
  - *What should the reader do or think after reading your paper?*

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