4 Paragraph Essay Format Graphic Organiser — Argumentative Essay (example)

Introduction Paragraph *Try to write a minimum of 3-5 sentences.* Topic focus: Introduce your topic, provide the context for your topic, and introduce your main argument/claim.	**Sentence 1:** Topic Sentence — "Hook" readers into your paper with an introductory sentence to the whole paper. **Sentence 2 (background):** Context sentence for thesis (argument/claim): Explain the details about your topic that will explain to the reader why you will make a thesis argument below. **Sentence 3 (background):** Context sentence for thesis (argument/claim): Explain the details about your topic that will explain to the reader why you will make a thesis argument below. **Sentence 4 (background):** Context sentence for thesis (argument/claim): Explain the details about your topic that will explain to the reader why you will make a thesis argument below. **Sentence 5:** Main argument/claim. Your main argument/claim is your opinion on your paper topic. *e.g. Pugs may be among the best breeds of dogs for pet owners considering more economically efficient, smaller-sized, purebred dogs.*
Body Paragraph 1 *Try to write a minimum of 6 sentences.* **Topic focus:** Introduce the subclaims/supporting arguments for your main claim. (These subclaims, together with your main	**Sentence 1 (claim):** Introduce your first supporting argument (subclaim 1). *e.g. Pugs' unique tail shape could make them more economically efficient dogs for pet owners.* **Sentence 2 (evidence):** Context sentence for subclaim 1 — provide an example in support of your first supporting argument. What makes your subclaim a good supporting argument in defence of your main argument (thesis)? *e.g. Pugs' tails are curled and located high on their backs, which may result in fewer tail-related veterinary expenses for pet owners; this is because longer-tailed breeds of dogs, in contrast, may be subjected to having their tails stepped on or closed in door jams.* **Sentence (claim) 3:** Introduce your second supporting argument (subclaim 2).

claim, form your thesis argument.) *Also: Consider the possible "pros" against your argument/claim. This may help you form stronger subclaims, and you will refer back to these in the next body paragraph.*	**Sentence 4 (evidence):** Context sentence for subclaim 2 — provide an example in support of your second supporting argument. What makes your subclaim a good supporting argument in defence of your main argument (thesis)? **Sentence 5 (claim):** Introduce your third supporting argument (subclaim 3). **Sentence 6 (evidence):** Context sentence for subclaim 3 — provide an example in support of your third supporting argument. What makes your subclaim a good supporting argument in defence of your main argument (thesis)?
Body Paragraph 2 *Try to write a minimum of 6 sentences.* **Topic focus:** Introduce opposing views (cons) against your main claim. Then, defend (refute) these opposing views with your subclaims.	**Sentence 1:** Introduce one opposing view (con) against your main argument/claim. **Sentence 2:** Refute (defend) this opposing argument. You may do this by referring back to your subclaim 1. **Sentence 3:** Introduce your second opposing view (con) against your main argument/claim. **Sentence 4:** Refute (defend) this opposing argument. You may do this by referring back to your subclaim 2. **Sentence 5:** Introduce your third opposing view (con) against your main argument/claim. **Sentence 6:** Refute (defend) this opposing argument. You may do this by referring back to your subclaim 3.
Conclusion *Try to write a minimum of 3 sentences.*	**Sentence 1:** Topic sentence for the whole paper: refer back to your thesis statement, introducing your three subclaims in the reverse order (3, 2, 1), and connecting them to your main argument/claim. **Sentence 2:** Summary context sentence: why is this an important topic? This will emphasise that your topic is worth considering, which will strengthen your main claim. You could also discuss what further research could be done on the topic. **Sentence 3:** Summary sentence for the whole paper: refer back to your topic sentence from your introduction paragraph. What were you trying to argue, and how did you prove this? This sentence should close the paper with a final thought that provides a feeling of closure to the topic.

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Introduction Paragraph	Sentence 1:
(minimum 3-5 sentences) Topic focus: Introduce your topic, provide the context for your topic, and introduce your (main argument/claim).	_____ _____ _____ **Sentence 2:** _____ _____ _____ **Sentence 3:** _____ _____ _____ **Sentence 4:** _____ _____

	_____ **Sentence 5:** _____ _____ _____
Body Paragraph 1 _(minimum 6 sentences)_ **Topic focus:** Introduce the subclaims/supporting arguments for your main claim. (These subclaims, together with your main claim, form your thesis argument.) _Also: Consider the possible "pros" against your argument/claim. This may help you form stronger subclaims, and you will refer back to these in the next body paragraph._	**Sentence 1:** _____ _____ _____ **Sentence 2:** _____ _____ _____ **Sentence 3:** _____ _____ _____

	Sentence 4:
	_____
	_____
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	Sentence 5:
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	_____
	_____
	Sentence 6:
	_____
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Body Paragraph 2 *(minimum 6 sentences)* **Topic focus:** Introducing opposing views (cons) against your main claim and defend (refute) these opposing views with your subclaims.	**Sentence 1:**
	_____
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	Sentence 2:

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Sentence 3:

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Sentence 4:

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Sentence 5:

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Sentence 6:

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Conclusion *(minimum 3 sentences)*	**Sentence 1:** _____ **Sentence 2:** _____ **Sentence 3:** _____

Longer argumentative essays may add additional body paragraphs to present further evidence and counterclaims.

Section 1 - Intro:

Hook

Background

Thesis

Section 2 - Developing Your Argument:

Claim 1

Claim 2

Claim 3

Evidence 1a, 1b, 1c

Evidence 2a, 2b, 2c

Evidence 3a, 3b, 3c

Section 3 - Refuting Opponents' Arguments:

Opposing View 1

Opposing View 2

Refutation 1

Refutation 2

Section 4 - Conclusion:

Conclusion

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