

ORGANIZATION

PATTERN 1

In this pattern, the writer argues / discusses the main points first, and then deals with the opposing viewpoints later.

Introduction

Introductions typically follow a 3-part pattern (hook / background / thesis). The hook catches the reader's attention, the background introduces the topic's background information, and the thesis gives the reader direction.

Support

Argue / discuss the main points of the paper

Opposing Viewpoints

Argue / discuss the main opposing viewpoints

Conclusion

Conclusions typically review the information provided in the paper, as well as wrap-up loose ends, giving the reader a sense of closure.

PATTERN 2

In this pattern, each supporting idea and the potential opposition is dealt with one point or one paragraph at a time.

Introduction

The Introduction for Pattern 2 is the same as Pattern 1.

Support

Argue the first supporting point in one or two paragraphs.

Refute the opposition to that point

Argue the second supporting point in one or two paragraphs.

Refute the opposition to that point.

Argue the third point in one or two paragraphs.

Refute the opposition to that point.

Conclusion

Conclusions typically review the information provided in the paper as well as wrap-up loose ends, giving the reader a sense of closure.

PATTERN 3

In this pattern, each paragraph is dedicated almost exclusively to arguing against an opposing viewpoint. One could imagine the title of such an essay, as "Why the President is Wrong about Torture." The essay would then dissect the opponent's argument point by point.

Introduction

The introduction for pattern 3 is the same as the Introduction for pattern 1.

Support

State the Reason the X aspect of their (the opposition's) argument is flawed.

State the Reason the Y aspect of their argument is flawed.

State the Reason the Z aspect of their argument is flawed.

Conclusion

Conclusions typically review the information provided in the paper as well as wrap-up loose ends, giving the reader a sense of closure.

PATTERN 4

In this pattern, each paragraph is dedicated to defining and explaining the issue while also providing solutions.

Introduction

The Introduction for pattern 4 is the same as pattern 1.

Support*Part I*

Describe or define the issue.

Convince your reader that this issue is important—that it's really a problem.

If necessary, provide some background.

Consider discussing how the problem came to your attention.

Part II

Propose a solution or provide and explain.

Support the validity of your solution with as much evidence, examples, or explanation as necessary.

Part III

Acknowledge / address opposing ideas.

Give objections to your stance.

Respond to these objections.

Conclusion

Conclusions typically review the information provided in the paper as well as wrap-up loose ends, giving the reader a sense of closure.