

BUILDING A RESEARCH PAPER

Cut out the shapes and fill in the blanks. Use a second sheet if your research paper has more than four body paragraphs. You might choose to reorder your body paragraphs as you plan your paper. Happy writing! 😊

INTRODUCTION

Starts with *topic* (in general, what is this paper about?):

Ends with *thesis* (what is your argument about this topic?):

CONCLUSION

Starts with restating thesis (using different words):

Ends with response to 'so what?' question (why should we care?)*:

(*Note: Here you only want to expand your topic a *little bit* by stating its significance.)

BODY PARAGRAPH # _____

Topic sentence (what is this paragraph about?):

<add details, evidence, support, references, etc.>

Concluding sentence (wrap up the paragraph and/or transition to next one):

BODY PARAGRAPH # _____

Topic sentence (what is this paragraph about?):

<add details, evidence, support, references, etc.>

Concluding sentence (wrap up the paragraph and/or transition to next one):

BODY PARAGRAPH # _____

Topic sentence (what is this paragraph about?):

<add details, evidence, support, references, etc.>

Concluding sentence (wrap up the paragraph and/or transition to next one):

BODY PARAGRAPH # _____

Topic sentence (what is this paragraph about?):

<add details, evidence, support, references, etc.>

Concluding sentence (wrap up the paragraph and/or transition to next one):

Tip: Link body paragraphs *back to thesis*—they should support your argument. 😊