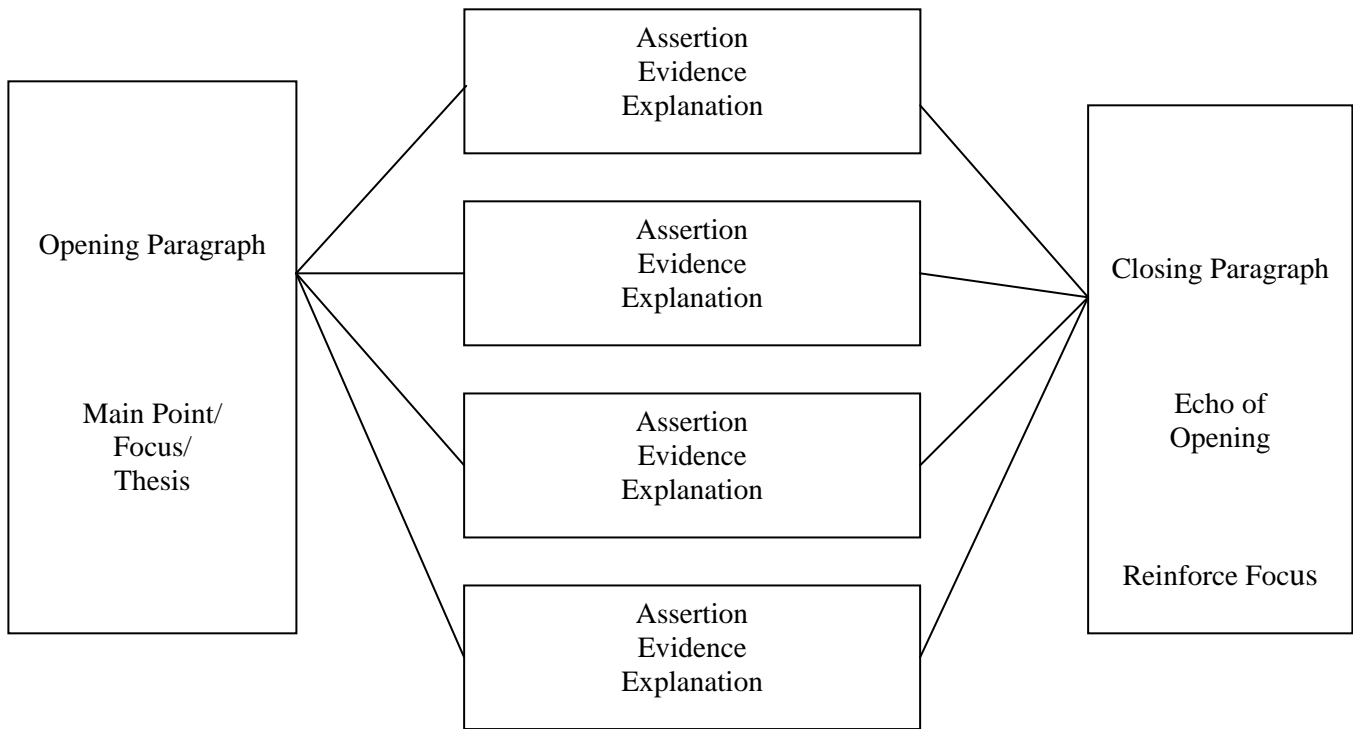


Going from Gathering Ideas to ORGANIZING them for an Essay

Assertion: a statement that relates back to and proves/explains the main point/thesis.

Evidence: proof that supports the assertion, such as facts, details from the text, or examples from real life.

Explanation: Usually the most important aspect of the paper -- an explanation or discussion of HOW the evidence proves the assertion, and HOW or WHY the assertion relates to the main point /thesis.



Ask yourself:

What general image/
information about my
topic do I want to use
to interest my reader?

What point do I
present about my
topic?

What promise do I
make to the reader
about where my essay
is going?

Ask yourself:

What point does this
paragraph make that
clearly relates to my
focus or main point?

What proof do I
have that this is
true?

How do I explain my
evidence?

Ask yourself:

Based on all the
evidence I provided,
what conclusion can
I draw about my main
idea?

Note: A writer chooses how many middle paragraphs are necessary to explain the essay's main point fully.