Persuasive Essay Outline (5 paragraph essay) notes...

1. Introduction paragraph:
   A. Get the readers attention by using a “hook”. Pull your audience in!
      1. Quote, Fact, something interesting to start essay
   B. Give some background information about topic.
      Explain what the topic is and why it is controversial or important to you.
   C. Thesis or focus statement (MUST BE STATED in the LAST sentence of your introduction paragraph).
      1. This is a sentence stating your opinion about the topic and will be proven in the rest of your essay with 3 strong reasons and support.
         a. Example: I am in favor of ____________ because ____________, ______________, and ____________.
         b. Example: I am against ______________ because ____________, ______________, and ____________.

2. Body Paragraphs:
   A. (1st body paragraph) First argument or reason to support your position
      1. Topic sentence explaining your first reason.
         a. Example: My first reason for being against ____________ is ______________
      2. Provide support/evidence to prove your first reason.
         a. Facts, data, examples, etc.
   B. (2nd body paragraph) Second argument or reason to support your position.
      1. Topic sentence explaining your second reason.
         a. Example: Another reason I do not support ____________ is ______________.
      2. Provide support for your second reason
         a. Facts, data, examples, etc.
   C. (3rd body paragraph) Counter argument and third reason to support position.
      1. State what the other side believes or may argue
         a. Example: Some may argue ______________
      2. Challenge their argument with your third reason and provide support.
         b. Example: but I disagree because ______________.
c. Give support such as facts, data, examples, etc. explaining why your opinion is right and the other side is not right.

3. **Conclusion Paragraph:**
   A. Sum up your main points and 3 reasons.
   B. Restate your thesis. Example: I am strongly against ____________.
   C. Final words: last comments or call to action. Encourage the reader to agree with you and take your side on the issue.