Persuasive Essay Structure

Paragraph 1: Introduction

1. Get the reader’s attention. (Suggestions for this are in the persuasive essay packet.)

2. Describe the problem and/or give the reader a reason to care about it.

3. State your thesis/claim with your reasons.

(We should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.)

Paragraph 2: Reason/argument

1. State your first reason/argument.

2. Present and explain your evidence and support for this reason/argument.

Paragraph 3: Reason/argument

1. State your second reason/argument.

2. Present and explain your evidence and support for this reason/argument.

Paragraph 4: Response to a counterargument

1. Introduce a counterargument.

(Some people might say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.)

1. Present your rebuttal.

(That’s wrong because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.)

(That may be true, but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.)

Paragraph 5: Conclusion

1. Restate your thesis and/or remind the reader why it matters.
2. Present a solution or a call to action.