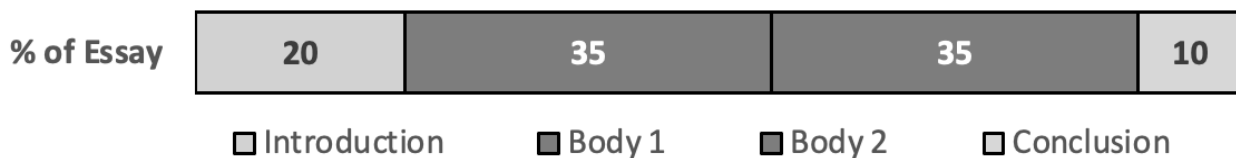


An essay is made up of a group of paragraphs about one subject. In our courses, we teach 4-paragraph essays, which have an **introduction** paragraph, two **body** paragraphs, and one **conclusion** paragraph. The body paragraphs should be the longest and strongest.



This is the general structure for the organization of any 4-paragraph academic essay:

Paragraph	Paragraph Contents	Notes
Introduction	Background Information	Useful information for your reader that guides them to think about your topic.
	Thesis Statement	Informs your reader about the essay type (cause/effect/opinion), topic, and your two ideas that will be covered in the body paragraphs.
Body 1	Topic Sentence	States the first idea from the thesis statement.
	First Supporting Section	Supporting information with details.
	Second Supporting Section	Supporting information with details.
Body 2	Topic Sentence	States the second idea from the thesis statement.
	First Supporting Section	Supporting information with details.
	Second Supporting Section	Supporting information with details.
Conclusion	Concluding Statement	Restate the thesis statement.
	Final Comment	A suggestion, warning, advice, or something similar. Just one sentence.