GENERAL 5-PARAGRAPH ESSAY OUTLINE

I. Introduction
   a. Attention-getter (anecdotes, facts, statistics, rhetorical questions, description, etc.)
   b. Background information (narrow down central idea)
   c. Thesis statement (a claim/assertion that includes a developmental plan outlining your intended argument; list your three main points)

II. Body Paragraph #1
   a. Topic Sentence (major assertion/point)
   b. Supporting details (quotes, description, paraphrasing, explanation, etc.)

III. Body Paragraph #2
   a. Topic Sentence (major assertion/point)
   b. Supporting details (quotes, description, paraphrasing, explanation, etc.)

IV. Body Paragraph #3
   a. Topic Sentence (major assertion/point)
   b. Supporting details (quotes, description, paraphrasing, explanation, etc.)

V. Conclusion
   a. Restate thesis (rephrase main idea)
   b. Closing thoughts (So what? summary of main points, call to action, quotation, question, reference back to introduction, future)