Outline of an Argumentative Essay-Classical Pattern

I. Introduction

- A. Background Information: basic information about the issue and the position being argued.
- B. Thesis Statement: states the position to be argued in the essay

II. Reasons that Support the Thesis Statement

- A. Reason/Argument 1 (main point #1)
 - 1. Supporting evidence
 - 2. Supporting evidence

B. Reason/Argument 2 (main point #2)

- 1. Supporting evidence
- 2. Supporting evidence

C. Reason/Argument 3 (main point #3)

- 1. Supporting evidence
- 2. Supporting evidence

III. Counter Arguments and Responses to Them

- A. Mention the arguments from the other side of the issue if there could be an opposing interpretation.
- B. Briefly refute the other side's arguments

IV. Conclusion