

## **Basic Essay Structure - CCS W8.1**

Grading Items 5, Top Score: 5

### **Thesis Statement**

**Score 5:** Clear thesis which establishes the writer's position and acknowledges possible alternative positions.

**Score 4:** Mostly clear thesis which establishes the writer's position.

**Score 3:** Thesis statement is evident, but the author's position is not entirely clear.

**Score 2:** Incomplete attempt at a thesis statement.

**Score 1:** No clear thesis apparent.

### **Overall Structure**

**Score 5:** Ideas are logically ordered. Clear introduction/thesis, body/support, and conclusion paragraphs.

**Score 4:** Ideas follow a mostly logical structure. Four of the five component paragraphs appear.

**Score 3:** Ideas have some structure, but at least two key paragraphs are missing.

**Score 2:** Many key structural elements are missing.

**Score 1:** No evident structure.

### **Supporting Evidence**

**Score 5:** All claims are backed with properly quoted passages of text.

**Score 4:** Most key claims are backed with properly cited text.

**Score 3:** A few text citations were made, but many assertions do not have strong supporting evidence.

**Score 2:** Only one or two ideas are supported with evidence.

**Score 1:** No text evidence supports key claims.

### **Formal Style**

**Score 5:** Author provides a concluding statement that follows from and supports argument presented.

**Score 4:** Essay follows most conventions of formal style.

**Score 3:** Author has clearly attempted to use formal style, but fails in several places.

**Score 2:** Little attempt made to use formal style.

**Score 1:** No attempt at using formal essay style.

### **Conclusion**

**Score 5:** Author provides a concluding statement that follows from and supports argument presented.

**Score 4:** Concluding statement mostly follows from and supports the author's argument.

**Score 3:** Essay contains a concluding statement, but it only somewhat supports the argument presented.

**Score 2:** Concluding statement introduces a new idea or fails to support the argument presented.

**Score 1:** No attempt at using formal essay style.