Basic Format of an Argumentative Essay

1. Introduction

-provide context (explanation) of the topic and explain why it is an important topic

-include thesis (whether you AGREE or DISAGREE w/prompt but don’t have to state the reasons yet)

2. 1st body paragraph (Follow the 8-sentence paragraph model)

 -transition

 -state the 1st reason you agree or disagree

 -introduce and include 1st textual evidence to back up reason

 -analyze what that quote tells us

 -transition to 2nd textual evidence

 -analyze what that quote tells us

3. 2nd body paragraph (Follow the 8-sentence paragraph model)

-transition

 -state the 2nd reason you agree or disagree

 -introduce and include 1st textual evidence to back up reason

 -analyze what that quote tells us

 -transition to 2nd textual evidence

 -analyze what that quote tells us

4. Counterclaim paragraph

 -Transition

 -Explain the opposing viewpoint’s argument very well

-Disprove their viewpoint (explain why you still believe their side is wrong) and use at least ONE piece of evidence to help your rebuttal

5. Conclusion