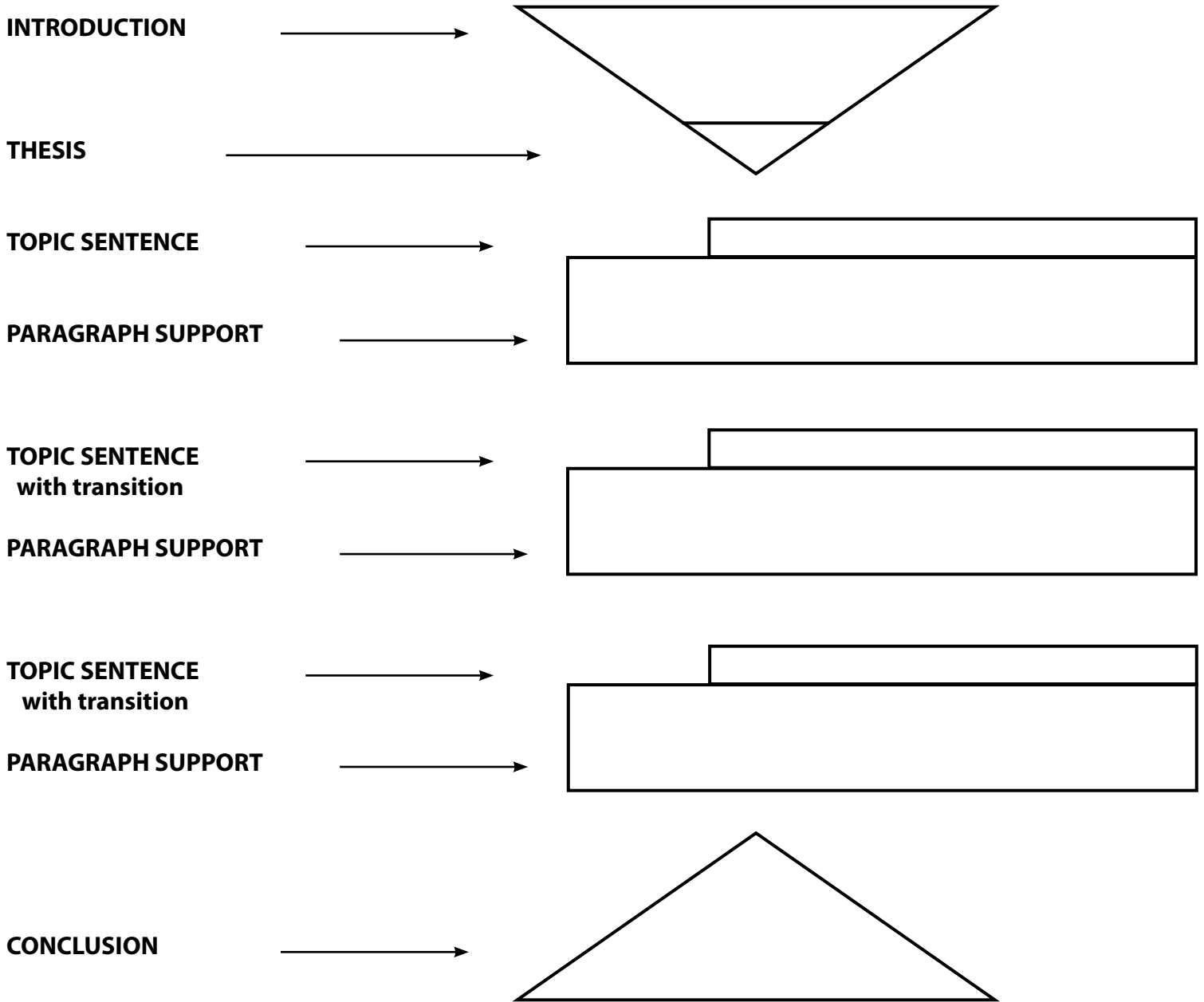


# BASIC ESSAY STRUCTURE

An essay develops one main idea in logical, well-developed paragraphs. This is one method of structuring an essay. Notice that the structure here is very similar to the structure of a paragraph.



## Essay

1. One main idea developed in a number of paragraphs
2. A logical pattern of organization
3. An introductory paragraph ending with a thesis
4. Body paragraphs developing the main idea
5. A concluding paragraph

## Paragraph

1. One main idea developed in about 4-8 sentences
2. A logical pattern of organization
3. A topic sentence opening the paragraph
4. Middle sentences developing the main idea
5. A concluding sentence