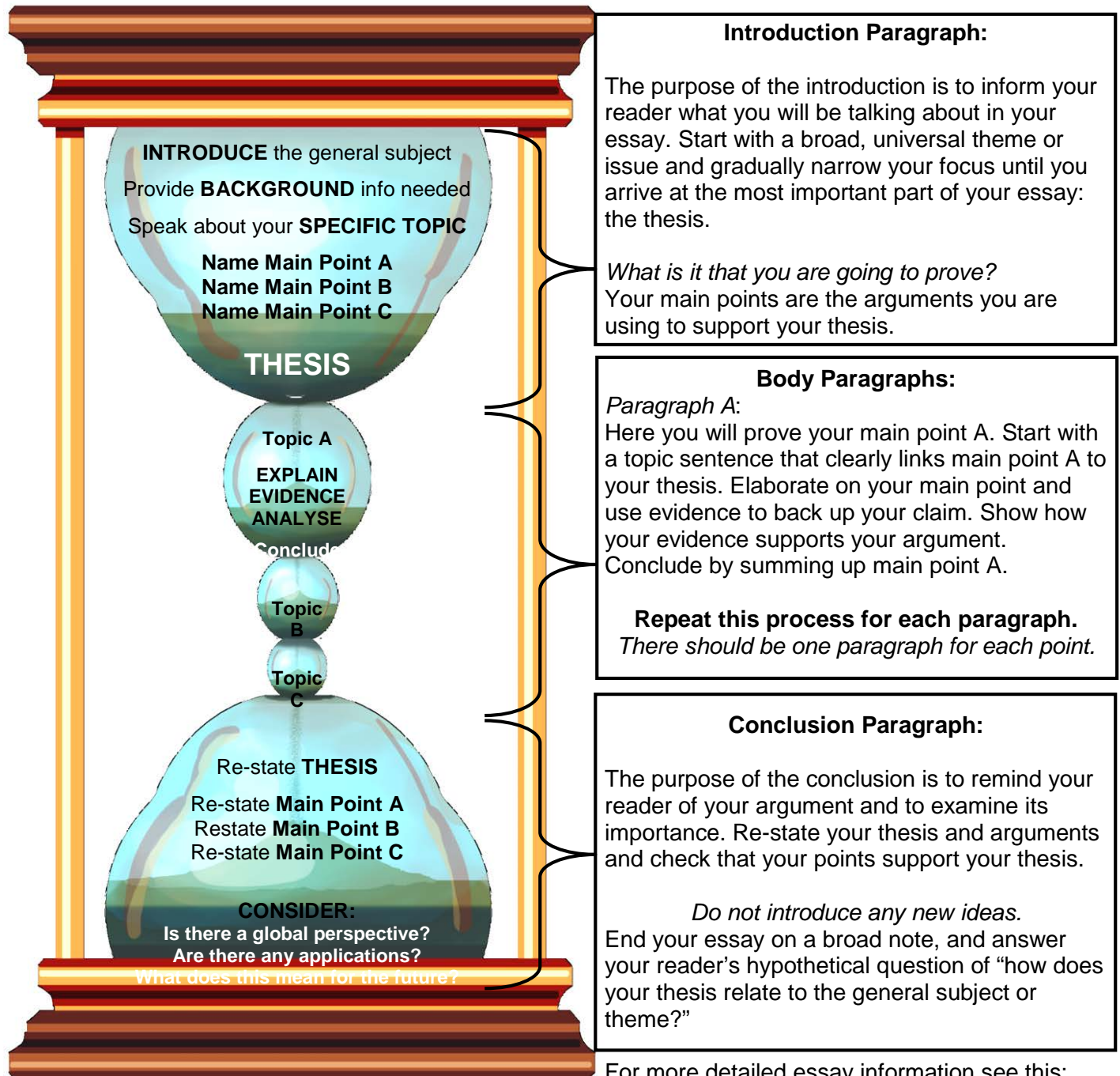


Structuring Your Essay

Students are often uncertain about how to organize their essay. Having a good structure helps the reader to remain connected to the ideas and follow the flow of information. This method of organization uses the shape of an hourglass to represent the focus of the essay, widening and narrowing as the reader is guided through the argument. This technique will not work for all essays, but it can easily be adjusted.



For more detailed essay information see this:
<https://courses.kpu.ca/mod/resource/view.php?id=156238>

Twaites, O. (2017). *Writing Hourglass*. Unpublished drawing, Faculty of Arts, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada.



Structuring Your Essay

Sample Outline

Introduction Paragraph:

Broad theme: _____

Specific topic: _____

Main point A:

Main point B:

Main point C:

Thesis: _____

Paragraph A:

Paragraph A will prove:

Concepts relating to main point A:

Paragraph B:

Paragraph B will prove:

Concepts relating to main point B:

Paragraph C:

Paragraph C will prove:

Concepts relating to main point C:

Conclusion:

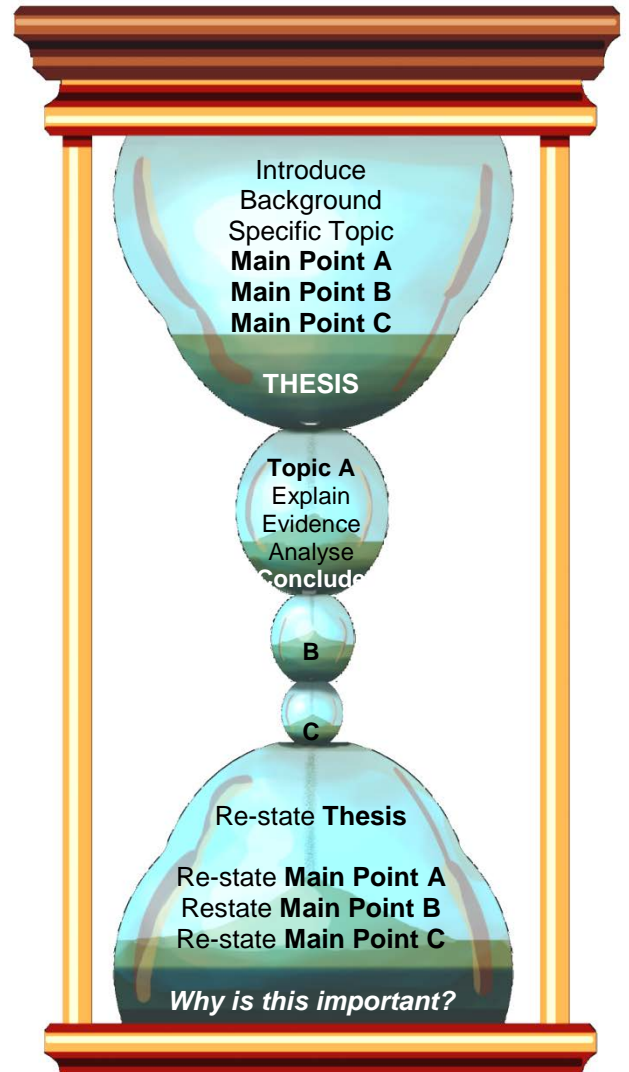
Re-state thesis:

Why is main point A important?

Why is main point B important?

Why is main point C important?

Why is your argument important?



Introduction Paragraph:
What is it that you're going to prove?

Body Paragraphs:
Do your paragraphs support your argument?

Conclusion Paragraph:
How did you prove your thesis?

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