TEPAC REMIX

The TEPAC structure does not mean a paragraph must be limited to five sentences! TEPAC is a skeleton!

T | SENTENCE LEADING INTO THE EVIDENCE. | **E** | **P** | **A** | **A** | **C**

In a response to literature essay, students may need to explain who the characters are or provide details about the situation before bringing in evidence from dialogue. In a Social Studies class, a student may need to provide some context, such as who the speaker is and the occasion in which he or she is speaking, before going straight into citing quotes from a speech.

Sometimes two pieces of analysis (aka two commentary sentences) may be necessary to fully analyze a piece of textual evidence.

We want our students to be able to confidently and effectively write multi-paragraph essays with more than one piece of textual evidence in each of their body paragraphs! This is similar to the Jane Schaffer writing strategy.
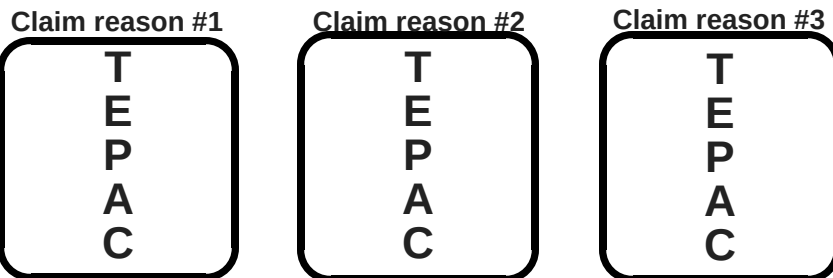
T E P A E P A C

The TEPAC structure should be used for single paragraph responses or body paragraphs.
Introductory paragraphs for multi-paragraph essays, such as DBQs or ELA essays require different structures.

Multi-paragraph essay in ELA

Introductory paragraph: Combination of the following elements: Hook + Tag + Context + Thesis Statement, including three reasons to support the claim (for a five paragraph essay)

BODY PARAGRAPHS

Claim reason #1
T E P A C
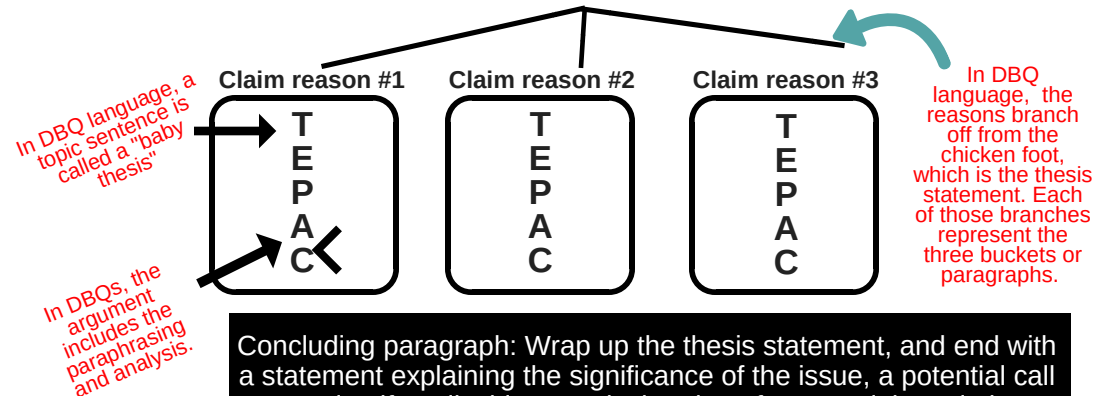
Claim reason #2
T E P A C

Claim reason #3
T E P A C

Concluding paragraph: Wrap up the argument by referring back to the thesis statement. End by expressing the significance of the claims and issues explored in the essay.

Multi-paragraph essay or DBQ in S.S.

Introductory paragraph: Grabber + Historical setting (time and place) + background information and context + thesis statement, which restates the question with key terms (including 3 reasons or "chicken foot" to support the thesis statement or claim).

In DBQ language, BODY PARAGRAPHS are called "BUCKETS"

In DBQ language, a topic sentence is called a "baby thesis"

Claim reason #1
T E P A C

Claim reason #2
T E P A C

Claim reason #3
T E P A C

In DBQs, the argument includes the paraphrasing and analysis.

In DBQ language, the reasons branch off from the chicken foot, which is the thesis statement. Each of those branches represent the three buckets or paragraphs.

Concluding paragraph: Wrap up the thesis statement, and end with a statement explaining the significance of the issue, a potential call to action if applicable, or a declaration of a potential resolution appropriate for the historical period and prompt.