

Another  
five-paragraph  
essay?!

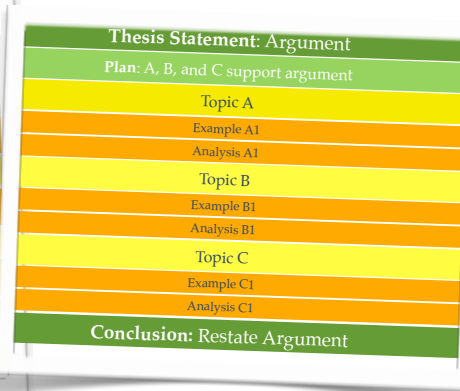
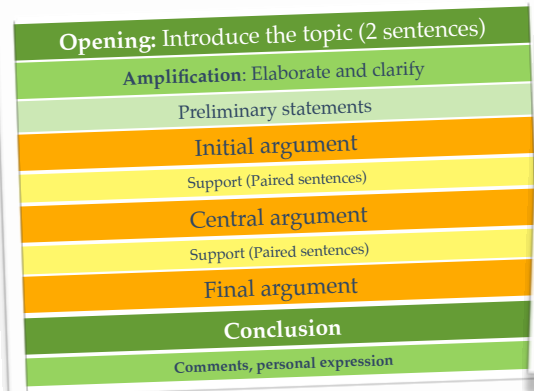
## Alternative Structures: Inspiration from Chinese Rhetorical Traditions

But  
there are  
alternatives!

### The Eight-Legged Essay

### The Five-Paragraph Essay

### Qi-Cheng-Zhuan-He



### Eight-Legged Essay

### Five-Paragraph Essay

### Qi-Cheng-Zhuan-He

Logic	inductive / deductive	deductive	inductive
Role of reader	reader / writer responsibility	writer responsibility	reader responsibility
Supporting arguments	3 or 5	3	2 or 4
Type of thesis	introduce, elaborate	argue, plan	introduce, provide background
Personal opinions	gradually or in the conclusion	at the beginning	in the conclusion
Linearity	indirect	direct	indirect
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- neutrality</li> <li>- conciseness</li> <li>- chronological organization</li> <li>- detail oriented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- easy to evaluate</li> <li>- restates conclusions</li> <li>- linear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- emphasis on previous work</li> <li>- encourages discussion</li> <li>- strong conclusion</li> </ul>
Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- formulaic</li> <li>- lack of personal involvement</li> <li>- long introduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- abrupt, confrontational</li> <li>- leads to writers going on auto-pilot</li> <li>- thesis first before studying evidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- requires more from the reader</li> <li>- transition can be abrupt</li> </ul>