

Engaging first sentence – Catch the reader's attention

Opening paragraph – Express a clear, singular topic that is the primary focus of your op-ed

Body Paragraphs – Short paragraphs (2-5 sentences)

- Have one point per paragraph
- Develop your story
- Back your main thesis
- Identify and refute counterarguments
- Build support for your conclusion

Closing paragraph – Reiterate your main point and offer a final epiphany, solution, or call to action

Memorable final sentence – Stick in your readers' minds