**SAT Essay Format: A Quick Outline**

* **Introduction** (with your thesis) - 2-5 sentences
	+ Start with a statement about what the author of the passage is arguing.
	+ Thesis with a clear statement about what argumentative techniques you will be examining in the essay. Those argumentative techniques are **ALWAYS** the same in every essay-evidence, reasoning, and persuasive elements.
* **Paragraph 1(EVIDENCE-facts or examples to support claims)** - 6-10 sentences
	+ Transition from introduction to a specific example that illustrates an argumentative technique.
	+ Specific example of when the author uses that technique and how they employ it. Use a quotation or a specific reference to what the author wrote.
	+ Explanation for why that example strengthens the passage author's argument
* **Paragraph 2(REASONING-develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence)** - 6-10 sentences
	+ Transition from previous paragraph to a specific example that illustrates a second argumentative technique.
	+ Specific example of when the author uses that technique and how they employ it. Use a quotation or a specific reference to what the author wrote.
	+ Explanation for why that example strengthens the passage author's argument
* **Paragraph 3(PERSAUSIVE ELEMENTS-author’s word choice or appeal to emotions which add power to the ideas expressed)** - 6-10 sentences
	+ Transition from previous paragraph to a specific example that illustrates a third argumentative technique.
	+ Specific example of when the author uses that technique and how they employ it. Use a quotation or a specific reference to what the author wrote.
	+ Explanation for why that example strengthens the passage author's argument
* **Conclusion** - 2-4 sentences
	+ Restate your thesis (in different words) and mention the examples you used to support it in your essay.

**TIPS**

1. **Give a clear thesis**
2. **Include both an introduction and a conclusion**
3. **Use effective and academic language and word choice**
4. **Only use information from the passage(quotations and specific examples from the passage ONLY)**
5. **Focus your essay on relevant details**
6. **Answer the prompt**
7. **STAY ORGANIZED-include a quick outline to help with the organization of your essay**
8. **Make time to read, analyze, plan, write, and revise**
9. **PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!!!**