Scarecrow Essay Structure

1. When building a scarecrow, you start by making a head. Similarly, when writing an essay, you begin with an **introduction.** An introductory paragraph should include a hook that grabs the reader's attention and background information about your topic.

2. To continue building your scarecrow, place the head of your scarecrow on a supporting stick. The stick in your essay is your **thesis statement** because it is the central argument that runs through the paper. Typically, a thesis statement is one sentence that comes at the end of your introduction.

3. Next, begin building the body of your scarecrow. The body of an essay should support the thesis statement. You can think of your first **body paragraph** as your scarecrow's shirt. Remember that a body paragraph should start with a topic sentence that introduces the topic of that paragraph. In addition, body paragraphs should include supporting details in the form of direct quotes, statistics, and/or paraphrases or summaries.

4. Think of the **supporting details** as the straw of your scarecrow because it fills out each body paragraph.

5 & 6. You might wish to include **two more body paragraphs,** represented by the scarecrow's two pant legs. Again, you must remember to include a topic sentence and supporting details in each paragraph.

7. The last step is putting shoes on your scarecrow. This is the **conclusion** paragraph of your paper. In your conclusion, restate your thesis statement, wrap-up what you've talked about, and give your reader a "so-what", where you inform readers why they should care about what you've written.

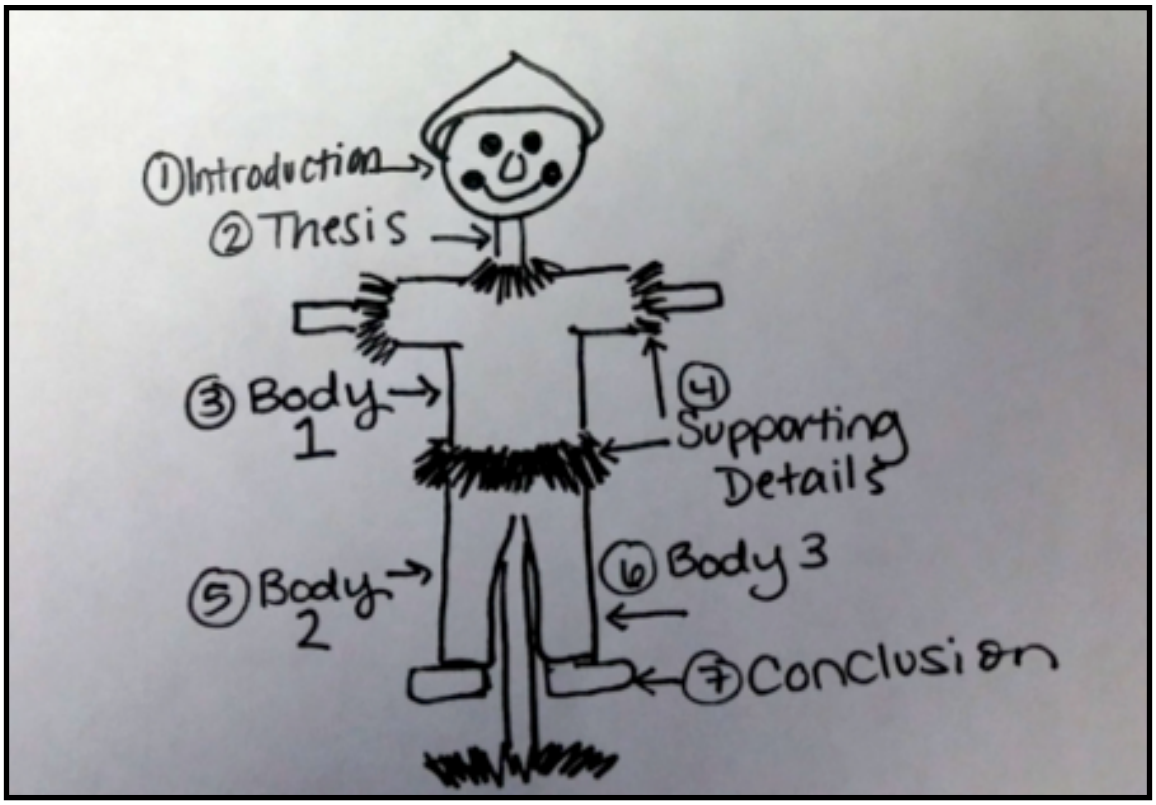

Photo representation of Scarecrow Essay Structure