Organizing

Organization is crucial to writing any essay. Typically, essays are set-up as follows: Introduction, Body Paragraphs, Conclusion. When organizing, there are several patterns of organization that can help when determining how to construct an essay. There are several examples below:

01 Chronological
When time is important in an essay, this is a good way of going about organizing a paper. This is a good strategy for subjects such as history, when a paper might be about events progressing in a certain timeline.

02 Topical
Splitting a topic into subtopics works when writing about a large topic. (Ex. When writing about universities, split the body into paragraphs about specific universities.)

03 Spatial
If an essay is about a physical place, spatial is a smart option. You can break your body up into paragraphs about different areas of a place.

04 Climactic
If you want to keep your reader wanting more, the climactic pattern builds the anticipation in your essay.

From the Writing Center at the ARC