The Puzzle



The introduction in a puzzle should **discuss the background of the main topic** so that it is clear that the "pieces" of the puzzle are all related to the main point in a key way. It should also **prepare the reader to consider several aspects of the topic separately**.

Body Paragraph A:

- Present a single aspect of the main topic in detail
- Examine this subtopic from a single perspective in great detail
- Or synthesize multiple perspectives less thoroughly

Body Paragraph B:

- Tackle a different aspect of the main topic similarly
- Subtopics may or may not be closely related to each other
- But must be related to the main issue in some meaningful way



Body Paragraph D:

- The puzzle could have more than four "pieces" as subtopics
- But should probably have at least four
- Add pieces as the topic or writing situation requires



Body Paragraph C:

- And so forth...
- A useful tactic with this type of structure is to use strong, specific section headings
- This will help smooth difficult transitions between subtopics that are only loosely related



Your Conclusion when using a puzzle structure should attempt to tie the pieces together in a way that discusses how each part plays a major role in the main point being covered. Why is it important to understand each issue in order to understand the whole?