Writing a Supported Opinion Paragraph

When writing a Supported Opinion Paragraph, the keys to success are as follows:

1. **Make sure that you understand the question** that is being asked, and what you have to provide in your answer.

   Exemplar: What is your **favourite** television show? Explain why.

2. **Make sure that you jot down your opinion and your support** in the Rough Notes section on the paper to organize this information before you start writing.

3. **Make sure that you follow the suggested Supported Opinion Paragraph structure** when writing your answer.

   Exemplar:

   My favourite TV show is **CSI**. I like **CSI** because it creates a lot of suspense. **You are always wondering what will happen next.** **CSI is also good because it makes you think and it is also educational.** **It teaches you a lot about forensic science.** **CSI is also my favourite TV show because it is creative.** Every week they come up with another strange and unheard-of method of murder. **CSI is my favourite TV show because it is so well-done.**

   **Sentence #1** – Introductory Sentence – This sentence contains part of the question (e.g. "My favourite TV show is") and answers the question (e.g. "CSI") being asked.

   **Sentence #2** – Sentence of Support – This sentence contains the first support for the opinion given in the introductory sentence (e.g. "...because it creates a lot of suspense").

   **Sentence #3** – Sentence of Clarification – This sentence provides clarification by explaining the first support given (e.g. How is CSI suspenseful? "You are always wondering what will happen next.").

   **Sentences #4** – Sentence of Support – This sentence contains the second support for the opinion given in the introductory sentence (e.g. "...because it is educational").

   **Sentence #5** – Sentence of Clarification – This sentence provides clarification by explaining the second support given (e.g. How is CSI educational? "It teaches you a lot about forensic science.").
**Sentence #6** – Sentence of Support – This sentence contains the third support for the opinion given in the introductory sentence (e.g. “...because it is creative”).

**Sentence #7** – Sentence of Clarification – This sentence provides clarification by explaining the third support given (e.g. How is CSI creative? “Every week they come up with another strange and unheard-of method of murder.”).

**Sentence #8** – Concluding Sentence – This sentence ends the paragraph by summing up the details within the rest of the paragraph, and may even create unity by repeating a phrase from the introductory sentence (e.g. CSI is “so well done”, which is a description that describes all of the other details in the paragraph.).

4. **Make sure that you edit your paragraph**, so that there are no errors that prevent your reader from understanding what you are saying. Use an internal checklist to do so like this one:

*Exemplar:*

Did I:

- Ensure that I stayed focused on the assigned question?
- Ensure that I wrote my paragraph in the suggested format? (Introductory statement of opinion, sentences with supporting detail, concluding sentence)
- Write in complete sentences, with proper punctuation.
- Use personal experience to support my answer, rather than made-up facts or information that I am unsure about.
- Use words and punctuation marks that I am comfortable with, to ensure that my writing is correct, mechanically.
- Write neatly, as illegible responses will not be graded.
- Fill all of the lines provided, because the lines provided represent the provincial expectations of length for this question.