**Sample argumentative essay structure**

**Find the following pieces/requirements:**

1. General statement
2. Scope
3. Thesis statement
4. Support
5. Objection
6. Rebuttal
7. Restatement of thesis
8. Summary of main ideas
9. Final thought

**Introductory paragraph**

Internet censorship is the limit of one’s access to materials on the World Wide Web through legislation. As the Internet becomes more pervasive, it has triggered the concerns of authorities regarding the impact of Internet materials on the wider community. As a result, Internet censorship has been introduced to restrict the freedom individuals have to access those materials online which are considered “unsuitable” for them. This has been supported because of the desire to filter out pornographic materials. However, current technologies often fail to distinguish between educational websites and “inappropriate” websites. Meanwhile, the equal right of every individual to obtain the materials they want online is violated. What is perhaps of greater concern is that governments often violate freedom of speech through the abuse of this policy. Therefore, the Internet, despite its potential harm, should not be censored.

*Body paragraph 1 topic sentence:*

Internet censorship often has the positive aim of preventing pornographic materials from reaching minors.

*Body paragraph 2 topic sentence:*

However, the effectiveness of censorship software in distinguishing between “harmful” websites and “harmless” websites is doubtful, and can violate people’s rights to obtain online any materials they need.

*Body paragraph 3 topic sentence:*

In addition, Internet censorship should not be imposed because no one can guarantee that the authorities will not violate freedom of speech through this policy.

**Concluding paragraph**

In conclusion, the Internet should not be censored. The current technology not only fails to meet its purpose of preventing pornographic sources from reaching minors, but cannot adequately distinguish between the type of information it censors. Thus, it succeeds only in blocking educational sites and, most importantly, infringing the right to free speech. Ultimately, legislation and Internet filters simply cannot cope with the exponential growth of the Internet and its users. A more effective policy would be to invest instead in the education resources needed to yield critical minds.