Analyzing Extended Arguments
Four Basic Patterns

- Horizontal
- Vertical
- Conjoint Premises
- Multiple Conclusions
Extended Argument: horizontal

(1) The selling of human organs should be outlawed. (2) If this practice is allowed to get a foothold, people in desperate financial straits will start selling their own organs to pay their bills. (3) The criminally-minded will take to killing healthy people and selling their organs on the black market. (4) In the end, this is too much like buying and selling life itself.
(1) The selling of human organs, such as hearts, kidneys, and corneas, should be outlawed. (2) Allowing human organs to be sold will inevitably lead to a situation in which only the rich will be able to afford transplants. This is so because (3) whenever something scarce is bought and sold as a commodity, the price always goes up. (4) The law of supply and demand requires it.
Extended Argument: conjoint premises

(1) Socrates is a Greek and (2) all Greeks are mortal. Therefore (3) Socrates is mortal.
(1) Day traders buy stocks in the morning and sell them at night. As a result, (2) they contribute nothing to the economy, and (3) they also make the markets more volatile.
Practice
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(1) A worldwide ban on the sale of ivory is long overdue. (2) Without it, the African elephant will become virtually extinct by the year 2000. (3) Today, poachers armed with AK-47 automatic rifles kill 2000 elephants every week, and (4) only 600,000 remain in the wild.
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Portrait Painting

(1) For beginners, portrait painting is perhaps the most difficult branch of art to understand and enjoy as painting. (2) If we happen to know, either from personal acquaintance or from photographs, what the subject of a portrait is actually like in physical appearance, we are inclined to think more about whether it is a good likeness than whether it is a good painting. And (3) if it is a portrait of someone who lived long ago but is not in the history books, we may think that because the subject is of no interest to us the painting must also be without interest. [A. C. Ward]
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Second Hand Smoke

(1) Second-hand smoke kills people, and (2) it causes allergic reactions. So I think that (3) Smoking bans in bars and restaurants are justified. Besides, (4) the smoke makes hair and clothing smell terrible.
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Genetic Cures

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Eating Animals

(1) The conditions under which many food animals are raised are unhealthy for humans. (2) To keep these animals alive, large quantities of drugs must be administered. (3) These drugs remain in the animals’ flesh and are passed on to the humans who eat it.
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Aggressive Foreign Policy

Although (1) Americans like to think they have interfered with other countries only to defend the downtrodden and helpless, (2) there are undeniably aggressive episodes in American history. For example, (3) the U.S. took Texas from Mexico by force. (4) The U.S. seized Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Guam. And (5) in the first third of the 20th century, the U.S. intervened militarily in all of the following countries without being invited to do so: Cuba, Nicaragua, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Honduras.
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(1) Prayers should be brought back into the classroom. (2) Since the court outlawed prayer, the nation has been in steady moral decline. (3) Former Secretary of Education William Bennett revealed in his cultural indexes that between 1960 and 1990 there was a steady moral decline. (4) During this period divorce doubled, teenage pregnancy went up 200%, teen suicide increased 300%, child abuse reached an all-time high, violent crime went up 500% and abortion increased 1000%. (5) There is a strong correlation between the expulsion of prayer from our schools and the decline in morality.
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School Prayer #2

(1) School prayer is a joke. (2) To think that God is pleased because children take a mindless moment of silence in the classroom is naive. (3) To think that morning prayer sessions in public schools will inspire faith is questionable. (4) Has mouthing the Pledge each morning ever been documented to increase patriotism in our children? (5) Many pupils would have no other dealings with religion and, as a result, would have reason to see it as a kind of empty ritual. (6) Meanwhile, religion in which God is served by more than words is replaced by a candied substitute.
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