Revising for Organization

The Big Picture
1. Is your thesis an argument? Is it the last sentence of your introduction?

2. Does your thesis imply an organization of topic sentences? What order does it imply?

The Topic Sentences
3. Does your first topic sentence support the thesis? How?

4. Does your second topic sentence support the thesis? How?

5. Does your third topic sentence support the thesis? How?

6. What is the best order of the topic sentences? Are the topic sentences in the best order?

7. Does the writer save the best argument for last? Why or why not?

Paragraph Level—First Body Paragraph
8. Does your body paragraph have a topic sentence? Is it the first sentence?

9. Is the evidence in a logical order? Why or why not?

10. Does the writer explain how the evidence relates to the topic sentences and the thesis?

11. Does the paragraph have a concluding sentence? What is it?
Paragraph Level—Second Body Paragraph
12. Does the body paragraph have a topic sentence? Is it the first sentence? 

13. Is the evidence in logical order? Why or why not? 

14. Does the writer explain how the evidence relates to the topic sentences and the thesis? 

15. Does the paragraph have a concluding sentence? What is it? 

Paragraph Level—Third Body Paragraph
16. Does the body paragraph have a topic sentence? Is it the first sentence? 

17. Is the evidence in logical order? Why or why not? 

18. Does the writer explain how the evidence relates to the topic sentences and the thesis? 

19. Does the paragraph have a concluding sentence? What is it? 

Conclusion Paragraph
20. Does the conclusion restate the thesis? What is it? 

21. Does the thesis summarize the main ideas of the essay (the topic sentences)? 

22. Does the conclusion end with a bang? What is it? 

Two things you liked about the essay:
1. 

2. 

Two suggestions you have to improve the essay:
1. 

2.