

How to Write a Paragraph

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Parts of the paragraph:

A paragraph consists of four parts:

- 1- Topic
- 2- topic sentence
- 3- supporting sentences (details)
- 4- closing sentence



My First Day at College

TITLE

▶ My first day at college was very nice.

**TOPIC
SENTENCE**

It was nice because I got to meet my lecturers, my classmates and I also got to see the beautiful campus.

**DETAILS
(SUPPORTING
SENTENCES)**

Because of all these reasons, I really enjoyed my first day at college.

**CLOSING
SENTENCE**



What is the topic sentence?

- ▶ The topic sentence is the first sentence in the paragraph.
- ▶ *What does it do?*
- ▶ It introduces the main idea of your paragraph.



Example:

Canada is the Best Country in the World

There are three reasons why Canada is the best country in the world. First, Canada has the best healthcare system. Second, Canada has a high standard of education, students are taught to become well trained teachers, and are encouraged to go to university. And finally, Canada has many parks where people can go and have a nice time. As a result, Canada is the best place to live.

TOPIC

TOPIC
SENTENCE



Supporting sentences (details)

- ▶ **What are the supporting sentences?**
- ▶ They come after the topic sentence and they make up the body of the paragraph.
- ▶ **What do they do?**
- ▶ They give details to develop and support the main idea of the paragraph.
- ▶ **How do I write them?**
- ▶ You should give supporting facts, details, and examples.



EXAMPLE:

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Closing Sentence

- ▶ What is a closing sentence?
- ▶ It is the last sentence in the paragraph.
- ▶ How do I write one?
- ▶ Restate the main idea of the paragraph in different/related words.



Example:

Canada is the Best Country in the World

There are three reasons why Canada is the best country in the world. First, Canada has the best healthcare system. Second, Canada has a high standard of education, students are taught to become well trained teachers, and are encouraged to go to university. And finally, Canada has many parks where people can go and have a nice time. **As a result, Canada is the best place to live.**



OUTLINE (the main plan)

HAMBURGER PARAGRAPH ORGANIZER

Topic Sentence: _____

Detail: _____

Detail: _____

Detail: _____

Conclusion: _____



Prewriting Stage:

- ▶ The prewriting stage is when you think carefully and organize your ideas for your paragraph before you begin writing.
- ▶ 1. Think carefully about what you are going to write.
- ▶ Ask yourself: What question am I going to answer in this paragraph? How can I best answer this question? What is the most important part of my answer? How can I make an introductory sentence from the most important part of my answer? What facts or ideas can I use to support my introductory sentence? How can I make this paragraph interesting? Do I need more facts on this topic? Where can I find more facts on this topic?



- ▶ 2. Open your notebook. Write out your answers to the above questions. You do not need to spend a lot of time doing this; just write enough to help you remember why and how you are going to write your paragraph.



What is the writing stage?

- ▶ The writing stage is when you turn your ideas into sentences.
- ▶ 1. Open your notebook and word processor.
- ▶ 2. Write the topic sentence, supporting sentences, and closing sentence.
- ▶ 3. Write clear and simple sentences to express your meaning.
- ▶ 4. Focus on the main idea of your paragraph.
- ▶ 5. Use the dictionary to help you find additional words to express your ideas.



Editing Paragraphs

- ▶ The editing stage is when you check your paragraph for mistakes and correct them.



- ▶ 1. Check your spelling.
- ▶ 2. Check your grammar.
- ▶ 3. Read your paragraph again.
- ▶ 4. Make sure each sentence has a subject.
- ▶ 5. See if your subjects and verbs agree with each other.
- ▶ 6. Check the verb tenses of each sentence.
- ▶ 7. Make sure that each sentence makes sense.



Paragraph Example



What is a Good Job?

In my opinion, translation is a good job. One can earn a lot of money from this job. A translator also gets to meet a lot of people, especially foreigners and that makes his social circle bigger. Furthermore, a translator can work in a variety of places, like: government agencies, universities and colleges, European Union organizations, global charities, and so on. One of the best careers that a person can consider is translation.



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