

PARAGRAPH WRITING

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LEARNING GOAL

To write a strong paragraph and get to know you better!

PARAGRAPH ORGANIZER

INTRO: TOPIC SENTENCE

BODY: RELEVANT DETAIL #1

BODY: RELEVANT DETAIL #2

BODY: RELEVANT DETAIL #3

CONCLUSION: CLINCHER

THE TOPIC SENTENCE

INTRO: TOPIC SENTENCE

What makes a good topic sentence?

- It includes the main idea or topic of the paragraph
- It grabs the reader's attention

Grab the readers' attention! (Dinosaurs)

1. Onomatopoeia- *Stomp. Grumble. Growl.*
2. Question- *What if you came eye to eye with a Tyrannosaurus Rex?*
3. Amazing Fact- *Did you know the Brachiosaurus was 39 feet tall?*
4. Quote- *(Doesn't have to be famous) My friend said, "This place is ancient."*
5. Excitement- *On No! The dinosaur is going to eat me for lunch!*
6. Opinion- *I think the changes in climate killed the dinosaurs.*
7. Humor- *(Simile or Hyperbole)- The Coelophys is faster than lightning!*
8. Repetition- *Help! Help! Help!*
9. Shocker- *It all started when I was in the mouth of a Brontosaurus!*
10. Curiosity- *Imagine going back in time to the days of dinosaurs.*



EXAMPLE

6. Opinion- *I think the changes in climate killed the dinosaurs.*

You may know my name is Miss S, but here are some other things **that I think** you should know about me.

THE BODY/ RELEVANT DETAILS

Key Reminders:

- Within a paragraph you need to stick to the topic
- Every sentence is RELATED to the topic sentence
- Every sentence gives details, examples, or a clear picture in the reader's mind of what your topic is

BODY: RELEVANT DETAIL #1

BODY: RELEVANT DETAIL #2

BODY: RELEVANT DETAIL #3

TRANSITION WORDS

- ◆ **Start-** in the beginning, first of all, to begin with, in the first place, one example, to start, at first, to get started
- ◆ **Alike-** at the same time, simultaneously, similarly, in the same way, by the same token, together with, as well as, likewise, additionally, equally, identically, like, also, again, likewise, comparatively
- ◆ **Different-** although, on the other hand, besides, regardless, however, nevertheless, in contrast, different from, instead, whereas, despite, otherwise, rather, even though, in spite of
- ◆ **Continue-** next, later on, then, soon, in addition, furthermore, in a moment, eventually, second, another reason, another example, afterward, meanwhile
- ◆ **Time-** at the present time, as soon as, all of a sudden, at this instant, until now, before, when, as long as, sooner or later, from time to time, immediately, suddenly, prior to, during, by the time, whenever, instantly, occasionally
- ◆ **Effect-** as a result, in that case, for that reason, consequently, therefore, accordingly, so, thus
- ◆ **Support-** to put it another way, another key point, especially, to point out, in particular, in fact, notably, certainly, surely, indeed, truly, to demonstrate, to illustrate
- ◆ **Place-** in front of, beyond, nearby, around, beneath, among, in the middle, here and there, down, between, up, over, alongside, wherever, across, below, to the left/right
- ◆ **End-** in conclusion, last, so you can see, in short, in the end, to summarize, finally, all thing considered, in the long run, after all, altogether, overall, in any event, all in all

EXAMPLE

Sentence 1:

- Start-
- **First of all**, you should know that I am passionate about rescuing and fostering dogs .

Sentence 2:

- Continue-
- **Secondly**, you should know that I am terrified of bugs.

Sentence 3:

- End-
- **Finally**, I think that you should know that I love to play any type of sport.

THE CONCLUSION



CONCLUSION: CLINCHER

How do you end off your paragraph?

- Summarize the main ideas/ topic of your paragraph
- Like the topic sentence, be creative!

CLINCHER

Get creative with the closing sentence.

- **Question:** Do you like to play outside in warm weather?
- **Humor:** Warm weather is like hitting the lottery!
- **Excitement:** I love it when the weather is warm!
- **Future thought:** I can't wait for the next warm day.



EXAMPLE

➤ **Question:** Do you like to play outside in warm weather?



Those are a couple of things that I think you should know about me, **what should I know about you?**

MISS S' PARAGRAPH

You may know my name is Miss S, but here are some other things **that I think** you should know about me. **First of all**, you should know that I love dogs. **Secondly**, you should know that I am terrified of bugs. **Finally**, I think that you should know that my background is Finnish and Italian. These are a couple of things that I think you should know about me, **what should I know about you?**

What do you notice about the appearance of my paragraph?

RESOURCES

<http://rockinresources.com/2014/11/writing-mini-lesson-7-closing-sentences.html>

<http://rockinresources.com/2018/01/series-step-step-writing-mini-lessons.html>

<http://rockinresources.com/2014/11/writing-mini-lesson-6-relevant-details.html>