

FROM SENTENCES TO STRONG PARAGRAPHS

Turn your ideas into a paragraph that makes sense and flows!

WHAT IS A PARAGRAPH?

A paragraph is a group of sentences that:

- ✓ Stay on the **same topic**
- ✓ Support the **main idea**
- ✓ Flow in a **logical order**
- ✓ End with a **closing sentence**

THE 5 PARTS OF A STRONG PARAGRAPH

1 TOPIC SENTENCE



Tells the reader the main idea of the paragraph.

2 SUPPORTING SENTENCES



Provide details, examples, or facts about the main idea.

3 TRANSITION WORDS



Help your ideas flow from one sentence to the next.

4 CLOSING SENTENCE



Wraps up the paragraph and reinforces the main idea.

5 CONNECTION



(Optional) Connects to the next paragraph or big idea.

HOW TO BUILD A PARAGRAPH

1 ANSWER THE PROMPT



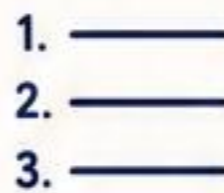
Make sure you understand what the prompt is asking.

2 BRAINSTORM IDEAS



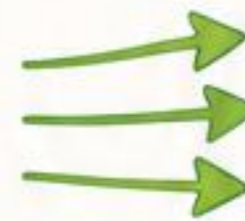
Write down details, examples, and facts that support your main idea.

3 ORGANIZE YOUR IDEAS



Put your ideas in an order that makes sense.

4 WRITE & ADD TRANSITIONS



Write your sentences and use transition words to help them flow.

5 CHECK & IMPROVE



Reread it. Does it make sense? Do your ideas flow? Fix or add what's needed!

USE TRANSITIONS TO MAKE YOUR IDEAS FLOW!

TO ADD

- also
- in addition
- another
- more importantly

TO SHOW TIME

- first
- next
- then
- finally

TO SHOW EXAMPLE

- for example
- for instance
- such as
- specifically

TO SHOW CONTRAST

- but
- however
- although
- on the other hand

TO CONCLUDE

- in conclusion
- as a result
- overall
- clearly

EXAMPLE PARAGRAPH

Dogs make wonderful pets. **First**, they are loyal and always happy to see you. **They also provide companionship and can help reduce stress. For example, many therapy dogs visit hospitals to comfort patients. Additionally, dogs encourage us to be active by needing daily walks and playtime. Overall, dogs are loving, helpful, and make our lives better in so many ways.**

1 Topic Sentence Introduces the main idea.

2 Supporting Sentences Provide details and examples.

3 Transitions Help ideas flow.

4 Closing Sentence Wraps it up and restates the main idea.

5 Connection (Optional) Links to the next idea or big topic.

PARAGRAPH CHECKLIST



- ✓ I have a clear topic sentence.
- ✓ My supporting details stay on topic.
- ✓ I used transition words.
- ✓ I have a closing sentence.
- ✓ My ideas flow in a logical order.
- ✓ I reread and checked my work.

Practice makes progress! The more you write, the stronger your paragraphs will be!

★ ONE STRONG PARAGRAPH AT A TIME! ★

EXAMPLE PARAGRAPH

Broken Down

See how each part works together to make a strong, smooth paragraph!

1 TOPIC SENTENCE

2 SUPPORTING DETAIL #1

3 SUPPORTING DETAIL #2

4 SUPPORTING DETAIL #3

5 CLOSING SENTENCE

My favorite season is fall. There are many reasons why fall is so special. **First**, the weather is perfect. The cool, crisp air makes it nice to spend time outside. **Second**, I love the beautiful colors. The leaves on the trees change to bright reds, oranges, and yellows. It looks amazing! Another reason I love fall is the fun activities. I enjoy pumpkin picking, going on hayrides, and eating warm apple cider. **Overall**, fall is a wonderful season full of beautiful sights, fun activities, and great memories.



1 TOPIC SENTENCE

Tells the reader the main idea of the paragraph.



2 SUPPORTING DETAIL #1

Gives a detail or example that supports the main idea.



3 SUPPORTING DETAIL #2

Gives another detail or example that supports the main idea.



4 SUPPORTING DETAIL #3

Gives one more detail or example to support the main idea.



5 CLOSING SENTENCE

Wraps up the paragraph by repeating the main idea in a new way.



REMEMBER:

- ✓ Stay on the same topic.
- ✓ Use details and examples.
- ✓ Use transition words to help your ideas flow.
- ✓ End with a strong closing sentence.

Great job! ❤️

PARAGRAPH TEMPLATE

Use this template to write a strong, well-organized paragraph!

1

TOPIC SENTENCE →

Tell the reader the main idea.

My main idea is _____.

2

SUPPORTING DETAIL #1 →

Give a detail or example that supports your main idea.

First, _____.

3

SUPPORTING DETAIL #2 →

Give another detail or example that supports your main idea.

Next, _____.

4

SUPPORTING DETAIL #3 →

Give one more detail or example that supports your main idea.

Also, _____.

5

CLOSING SENTENCE →

Wrap up your paragraph by restating your main idea.

Overall, _____.

PARAGRAPH CHECKLIST

- I wrote a clear topic sentence.
- I included 3 supporting details.
- I used transition words.
- My ideas flow in a logical order.
- I wrote a strong closing sentence.
- I stayed on topic.



PARAGRAPH CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to make sure your paragraph is strong, clear, and complete! ✓

1



I HAVE A TOPIC SENTENCE.

My first sentence tells the reader the main idea of my paragraph.

2



I INCLUDED SUPPORTING DETAILS.

I included at least 3 details, examples, or facts that support my main idea.

3



MY IDEAS FLOW.

I used transition words to help my ideas flow from one sentence to the next.

Some transition words I used:

first • next • also • another • in addition • for example • but • because • finally

4



MY SENTENCES ARE COMPLETE.

All of my sentences are complete and make sense.

5



I HAVE A CLOSING SENTENCE.

My last sentence wraps up my paragraph by restating the main idea in a new way.

6



I STAYED ON TOPIC.

All of my sentences are about the same main idea.



FINAL CHECK!

I reread my paragraph and checked for spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.



GREAT WRITING TAKES PRACTICE— KEEP IT UP!

