

Paragraph Construction

What is a paragraph?

- Composition of a group of sentences expressing one single idea
- It can stand alone or be a part of a larger piece
- Has 4 - 6 sentences on average

Parts of a Paragraph

- **TOPIC SENTENCE:** Introduces the topic of your paragraph
- **SUPPORTING SENTENCE:** Develops the central idea of your topic. Each sentence needs to be about the topic.
- **CONCLUDING SENTENCE:** Closes your paragraph and normally restates the idea introduced in the topic sentence.

Example Paragraph:

Topic sentence is in bold.
Supporting sentences are italicized.
Concluding sentence is underlined.

This is the topic sentence. These are vital to paragraph because they give a preview of what the paragraph will be about. They also give meaning to the supporting sentences that follow, along with notifying readers that you are on a new topic. Sometimes they will also be used as transitions from one paragraph to another. Topic sentences are an important piece to any solid paragraph.

*****HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT*****

For next class, write a "perfect" paragraph.

- Make sure you include a topic sentence, supporting sentences (at least two), and a conclusion sentence.
- Use the example paragraph as a model for your own.

Do not hand in a copy of the example paragraph or the one worked on in class.

If you do, it will be an automatic zero.