

Writing the Perfect Paragraph

Your main goal in writing a solid paragraph is to do the following:

- **Begin with a discussable point** (the topic sentence—what is the paragraph about)
- **Stick to the point** (provide evidence or support for the topic sentence)
- **Prove the point; don't merely repeat it** (now, explain the evidence or support)
- **Link your sentences to make your ideas easy to follow** (link by using transitional words and phrases, by repeating key words or pronouns, or by using similar sentence patterns).

The paragraph should be structured as follows:

1st sentence—topic sentence (what the paragraph is about)

2nd sentence—1st piece of evidence or support for the topic sentence

3rd sentence—back up the 2nd sentence with more explanation as to how or why this supports the topic sentence.

4th sentence—2nd piece of evidence or support for the topic sentence

5th sentence—back up the 4th sentence with more explanation as to how or why this supports the topic sentence.

6th sentence—3rd piece of evidence or support for the topic sentence

7th sentence—back up the 6th sentence with more explanation as to how or why this supports the topic sentence.

8th sentence—concluding sentence—sum up the paragraph with a conclusion.