PARAGRAPH WRITING

Content Coverage

- Introduction
- Attributes
- Steps to a good paragraph
- Structure
- Using transition words/linkers
- Types
  - Descriptive
  - Imaginative
  - Analytical
  - Informative
- Summary

INTRODUCTION TO PARAGRAPH

A paragraph is a group of logically placed sentences which are unified around one central idea.

Together the sentences of paragraph explain the writer's main idea about the topic.

In academic writing, a paragraph is often between five to ten sentences but can be longer or shorter, depending on the topic.

It may have variety of sentences, out of which the first sentence declares the main topic of the paragraph and the rest of the sentences develop or support the main idea.

Paragraphs are distinct blocks of text which section out a larger piece of writing—stories, novels, articles, creative writing or professional writing pieces—making it easier to read and understand

Attributes of a Good Paragraph

- Unity
- Support
- Coherence
- Good language
- Variety of Structures

Steps to Writing a Good Paragraph

Brainstorming
- Think and write down any ideas on a topic you wish to write about

Organizing Ideas
- Organize or prioritize your ideas by creating a cluster or an outline of what you want to write about

Writing the First Draft
- Draft a rough paragraph for the first time, not taking coherence, cohesion, grammar or spellings much into account

Editing
- Check for errors based on coherence and cohesion that your paragraph may have

Publishing (final work)
- Proof read the paragraph for any grammatical or spelling mistakes.

STRUCTURE OF A PARAGRAPH

Topic Sentence

- It is the main idea of the paragraph
- It usually is the first sentence of the paragraph

A Paragraph

Supporting Sentences

- These talk about or explain the topic sentence
- These are more detailed ideas that follow the topic sentence

Concluding Sentence

- This is the last sentence of the paragraph
- It may either have a summary of the topic and supporting sentences or provide a final comment on the topic

USING TRANSITION WORDS OR LINKERS FOR SHOWING:

Cause and Effect	As a result	Because	Hence	Since	So

Difference	Although	However	Instead	Though

Importance	Nonetheless	Nevertheless	At first	Most importantly

Place	Above	Around	Behind	Hereby	Here

Similarity	Also	Another	Besides	In addition to	Additionally	Moreover	Furthermore	Likewise

Time	After	Before	Then	When	Finally	Subsequently	Consequently

Types of Paragraphs

Descriptive

Imaginative

Analytical

Informative

DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH

A descriptive paragraph describes a person, place, thing, animal, theme or idea to the reader.

Descriptive phrases make use of the five senses: how something feels, smells, sounds, tastes or looks.

The more descriptive that you can get, the better picture you're providing to your reader.

A good descriptive paragraph will make them feel like they were there experiencing everything you're talking about.

Descriptive paragraphs are powerful tools for fiction writers, as these paragraphs are responsible for setting the stage and telling the story.
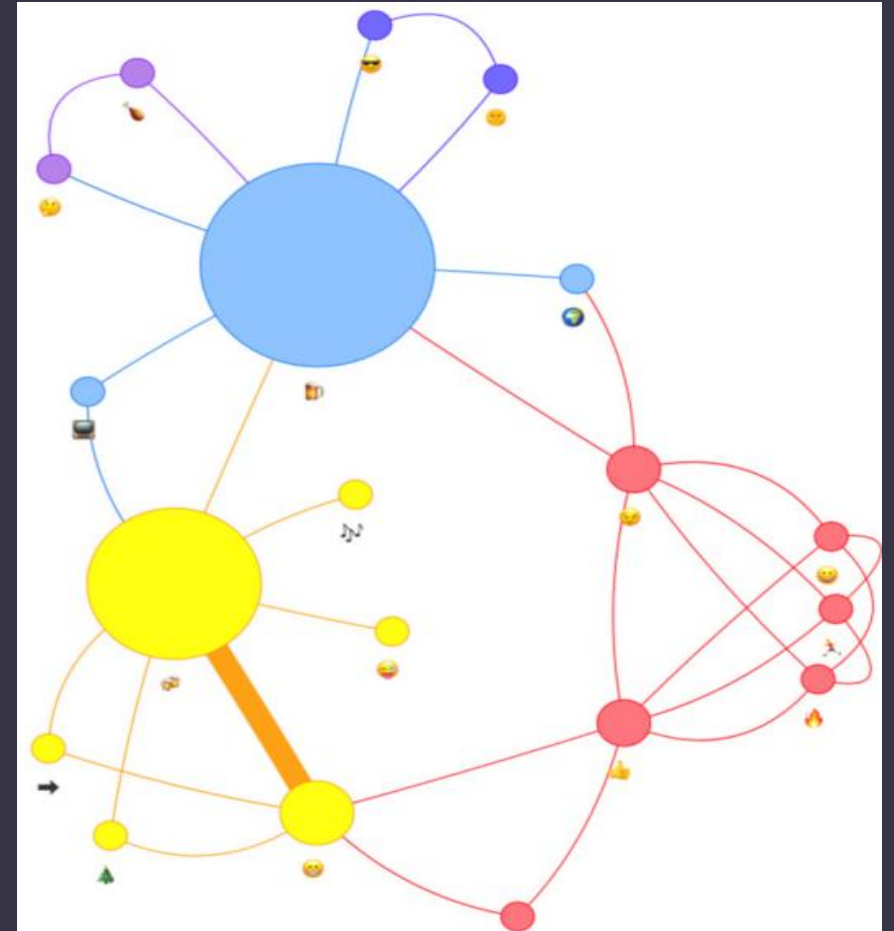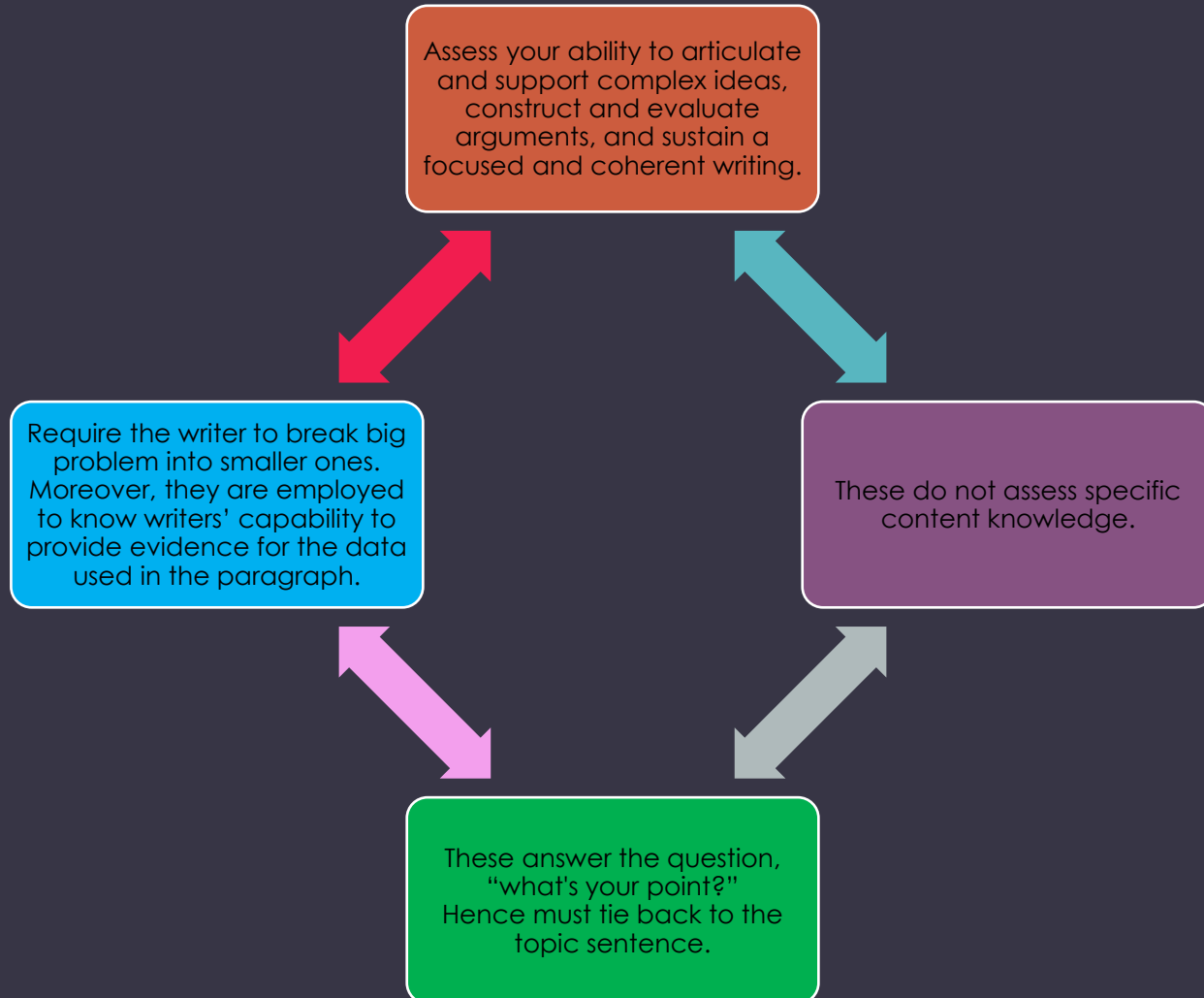
IMAGINATIVE PARAGRAPHS

Intend to entertain the readers

These are not based on actual facts or real experiences

Express the thoughts and feelings of the author in a creative way

May use sensory details like smell, touch, vision, taste, sound

Use of formal language is not necessary

Must have Logical flow of thoughts

ANALYTICAL PARAGRAPHS

Assess your ability to articulate and support complex ideas, construct and evaluate arguments, and sustain a focused and coherent writing.

Require the writer to break big problem into smaller ones. Moreover, they are employed to know writers' capability to provide evidence for the data used in the paragraph.

These do not assess specific content knowledge.

These answer the question, "what's your point?" Hence must tie back to the topic sentence.

INFORMATIVE PARAGRAPHS

Provide information about something clearly and systematically

The purpose of these paragraphs is to educate the reader

They give detailed explanation and extended definition

Make use of examples and illustrations for explaining the topic clearly

Language should be strictly formal

SUMMARY OF THE TOPIC

Make the first line of the topic sentence as effective as possible

Provide support via the middle sentences

Summarize the information provided in the concluding sentence

Avoid grammatical and spelling mistakes

Use transition words or linkers efficiently