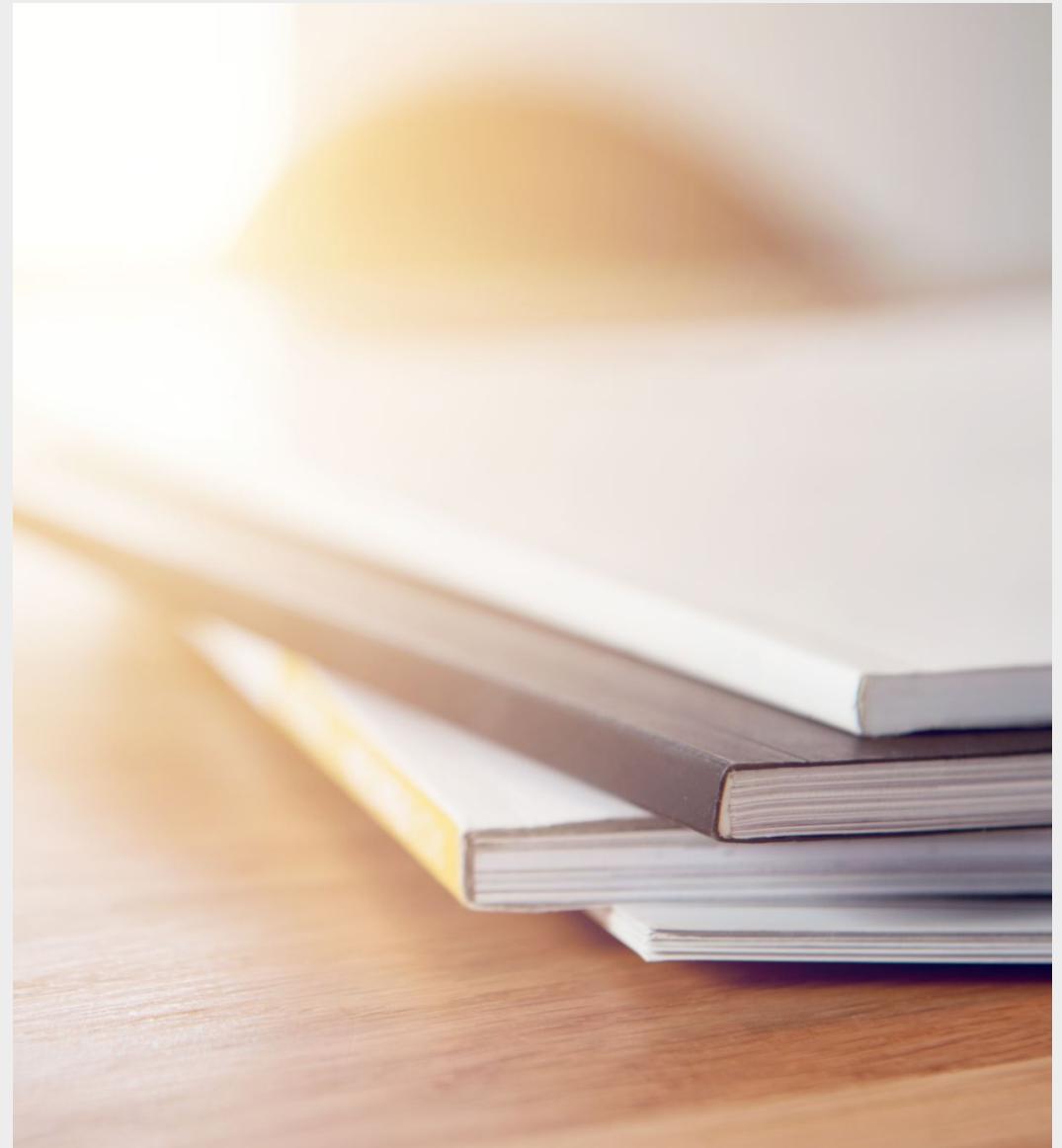

Writing a paragraph



What do you think is
the problem?



What do you usually do when you are asked to write on a particular topic?

Post on Chat.

What are the 5 steps in the writing process?

1. Pre-writing
 2. Drafting
 3. Revising
 4. Editing
 5. Publishing
-

Pre-writing strategies

1. Brainstorming
 2. Listing
 3. Clustering
 4. Mind-mapping
 5. Free writing
-

Brainstorming

What are the first five words/phrases that come to your mind when you are asked to describe your **Dream Job?**

Post on Chat.



Clustering



Mindmapping



How are you going to get into your dream job?

You have 5 minutes.

Write down as many ideas as possible on
how you are going to get into your dream
job.



Let us learn how to write a good paragraph.

What is a paragraph?

A paragraph is a group of sentences that are closely related.

- Helps divide points in an essay
 - Provides structure to one's writing
 - Represents a significant pause in the flow of writing
 - The pause is a signpost to the reader – indicating that the writing is about to move on to a different point
 - Each paragraph MUST deal with only ONE main idea
-

How long should a paragraph be?

- No absolute rule
 - Best practice : no less than 2-3 sentences long
 - The length of the paragraph depends on the idea being treated
-

How do I write a Paragraph

The paragraph has an internal structure with an introduction, main body and conclusion – similar to the essay at large

Step 01 – introduce the paragraph's main point

Step 02 – develop and support the point

Step 03 – show the significance of the point made

The Introduction

- Commences with a topic sentence
 - Clearly indicates the purpose of the paragraph
 - Shows the place the paragraph has in the structure of the piece as a whole – use linking words/conjunctions (nevertheless, however, furthermore) or a phrase (another point to consider is...)
 - In an essay, show how the main idea of the paragraph answers the question.
 - Includes the thesis statement
-

The Development

The body of the paragraph should develop the idea that has been introduced at the beginning of the paragraph by including supporting and additional details. This can be done by;

- Redefining the idea
 - Giving examples
 - Commenting on evidence
 - Showing implications or consequences
 - Examining opposing ideas
-

The Conclusion

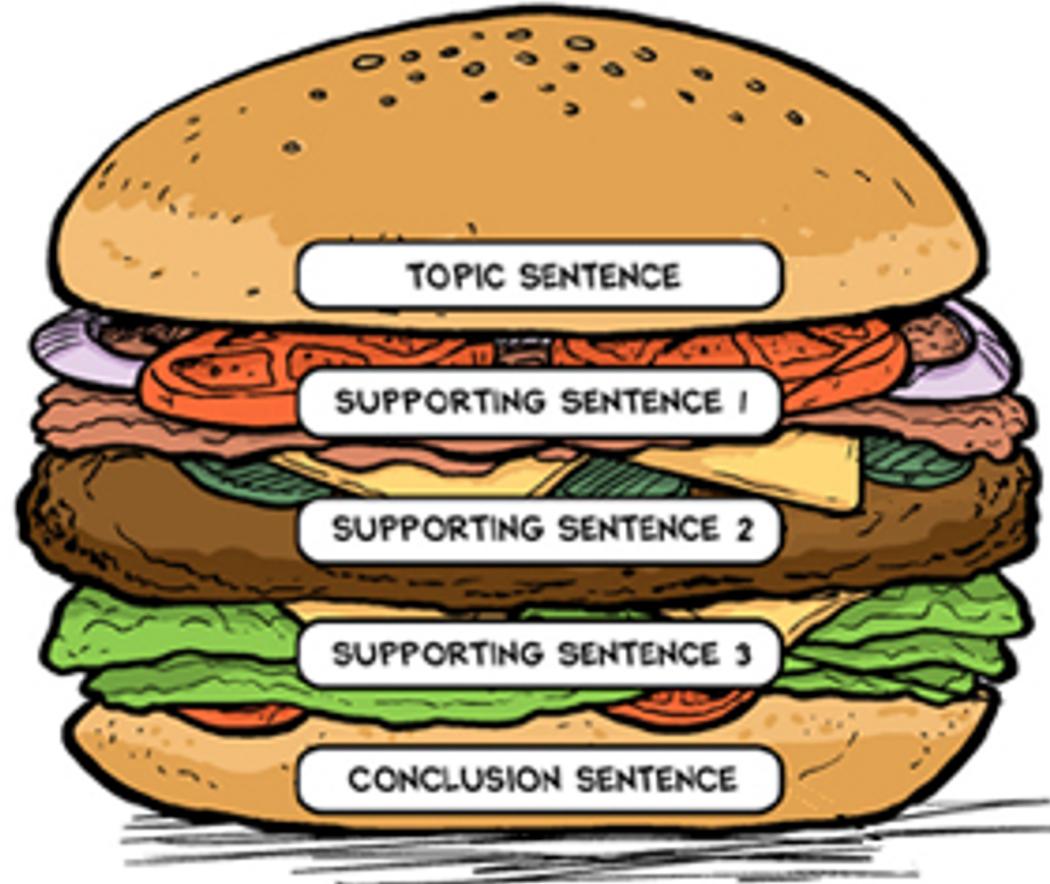
- Shows the significance of the point
- Links back to the beginning of the paragraph
- Comments on the implications of the point as a whole or
- Makes a link to the next paragraph

Note: Never end with a digression or irrelevant detail

The Hamburger Model

Components of a paragraph:

- Topic sentence
- Supporting details
- Additional details
- Conclusion



Topic Sentences

- Consists of
 - Topic
 - Controlling idea

E.g. Sri Lanka is a beautiful country

- Sri Lanka – Topic (general idea)
- is a beautiful country – Controlling idea (content of the paragraph)

Topic Sentences

The topic sentence in a paragraph clearly states the main idea of the paragraph. While it is usually at the beginning of the paragraph, it also can be in the middle or end of it.

- Example:

Life jackets have been proven to save lives. Everyone should wear a life jacket whenever asked. No one can predict when an accident might happen. There may not be enough time in an emergency to put on a life jacket. But if you are already wearing it, it may save your life.

Topic Sentences

The topic sentence in a paragraph clearly states the main idea of the paragraph. While it is usually at the beginning of the paragraph, it also can be in the middle or end of it.

- Example:

Life jackets have been proven to save lives. Everyone should wear a life jacket whenever asked. No one can predict when an accident might happen. There may not be enough time in an emergency to put on a life jacket. But if you are already wearing it, it may save your life.

What is the best topic sentence for this paragraph?

_____.

First, many universities in the world require two or more years of foreign language study for graduation. Secondly, learning other languages helps us communicate with people from other countries. Also, knowing a foreign language can lead to job opportunities. Finally, for many people, studying foreign languages is fun! There are many reasons to learn a foreign language.

- a. In the UK, many students study Spanish language.
- b. It is important to learn foreign languages.
- c. In college, people need to know foreign languages.

Write topic
sentences for the
following topics

1. Smoking cigarettes
2. Foreign travel
3. Space exploration
4. Music as an entertainment source
5. Studying a foreign language

Study the Paragraph below:

The rate of home ownership varies widely across the developed world. Germany, for instance, has one of the lowest rates, at 42%, while in Spain it is twice as high, 85%. Both the USA and Britain have similar rates of about 69%. The reasons for this variation appears to be more cultural and historic than economic, since high rates are found in both rich and poorer countries. There appears to be no conclusive link between national prosperity and the number of home owners.

Topic Sentence

Example 01

Example 02

The rate of home ownership varies widely across the developed world. Germany, for instance, has one of the lowest rates, at 42%, while in Spain it is twice as high, 85%. Both the USA and Britain have similar rates of about 69%. The reasons for this variation appears to be more cultural and historic than economic, since high rates are found in both rich and poorer countries. There appears to be no conclusive link between national prosperity and the number of home owners.

**Reason/
Explanation**

**Summary/
Concluding Sentence**

Rearrange the following sentences to make a meaningful passage.

- In the urban areas, 25% of people who have taken the test have a heart age that is at least one year older than their real age.
- A campaign has been launched to help people find out their heart age.
- The free online heart age test asks people some basic lifestyle questions including blood pressure and will give an instant estimation of someone's heart age.
- Those who have a heart age higher than their real age are at an increased risk of heart attack or stroke.
- Ministry of Health has created an online test in an effort to reduce the number of from heart disease or stroke.

Now, write your own paragraph!

You are expected to write a paragraph on the following topic.

Topic: A national or International festival/holiday (this should be a completely imaginary one. Be as creative as possible!)

1. Use a pre-writing strategy of your choice.
 2. Choose a topic sentence for your paragraph.
 3. Write 2 -3 supporting details.
 4. Write the concluding sentence.
-