

Paragraph Structure Techniques

Weaving

One way to help your paragraphs “flow” for your readers is by **Weaving** the content of your sentences together. If you weave your content together, your reader can stay tracking with the logical development of your ideas.

A **Formula** for this process might be...

Sentence 1. Sentence 2. Sentence 3. Sentence 4

A→B. B→C. C→D. D→E. (or sometimes swinging back to A is effective)

If you have seen the movie *Shooter* starring Mark Wahlberg, you may be familiar with the following example of weaving.

“Slow is steady. Steady is accurate. Accurate is fast. So, slow is fast.”

This example uses a simple (subject, verb, adjective) sentence, but a writer can also make this technique extremely effective using introductory clauses, compound, or compound-complex sentences.

Aligning

Aligning works similarly to **Weaving** but uses a slightly different formula.

Sentence 1. Sentence 2. Sentence 3. Sentence 4

A→B. A→C. A→D. A→E.

Cats are cute. Not only that, felines are extremely smart. Adding to this idea, they adapt quite well to any environment. In fact, cats are just awesome – swag.

Note that for the formula to work, the writer does not have to use the same exact word for **A**. (Actually, I would discourage it.) Instead, by aligning the subjects and using synonyms, the writer can create coherence out of what initially may have felt like random facts.

Note, also, that this technique works more effectively with transitional introductory clauses to help setup relationships between the sentences.