# Application Activity: Basic Paragraph

## Instructions

Write a paragraph in response to the writing prompt. First write the parts of the paragraph in the appropriate order (topic sentence, supporting details, and concluding sentence). Then paste the paragraph parts into one single paragraph. Look at the sample to see how this is done.

## Writing Prompt

*Choose a learning strategy from the course and explain why it can help you succeed in PathwayConnect*.

## Sample Paragraph

1. **Topic Sentence**

This should state a single controlling idea for the whole paragraph.

“Teach to Learn” is a learning strategy that will help me succeed in PathwayConnect because it will force me to think of more than one way to explain concepts.

1. **Supporting Details**

Support the topic sentence. Use two supporting details from the approved list (i.e. fact, expert testimony, statistics, personal experience). Write complete sentences.

An important study conducted by educational psychologist Richard E. Mayer, published in the April 2014 edition of “Contemporary Educational Psychology” supports this important fact. As he noted, “Results indicated that those [students] who prepared to teach (even without actually teaching) outperformed those who prepared for a test on an immediate comprehension test….Overall, these findings are consistent with the idea that the act of teaching (i.e. explaining the material to others in a new way) is important for long-term learning.” I have seen these results prove true in my own life as I have sought to teach others what I know in new ways. For example, last week, I taught my family about repentance. Since there were young children there, I wondered how I could say it so everyone would understand. As a result, I thought of a few examples to make my point. That extra work in my brain created extra connections in my brain. It was the kind of brain growth that we read about when we learned about growth mindset. Now when I think about repentance, I have those connections to help me understand it better.

1. **Concluding Sentence**

This should sum up the supporting details of the paragraph and reinforce the topic sentence.

Through the expert testimony of others and my own personal experience, I have learned that as I teach to learn, the efforts I make to help others understand will help me understand too, and that will help me succeed in PathwayConnect.

Paste the paragraph parts together here. Indent the first line. Do not separate lines with space.

*Teach to Learn is a learning strategy that will help me succeed in PathwayConnect because it will force me to think of more than one way to explain concepts. An important study conducted by educational psychologist Richard E. Mayer, published in the April 2014 edition of “Contemporary Educational Psychology” supports this important fact. As he noted, “Results indicated that those [students] who prepared to teach (even without actually teaching) outperformed those who prepared for a test on an immediate comprehension test….Overall, these findings are consistent with the idea that the act of teaching (i.e. explaining the material to others in a new way) is important for long-term learning.” I have seen these results prove true in my own life as I have sought to teach others what I know in new ways. For example, last week, I taught my family about repentance. Since there were young children there, I wondered how I could say it so everyone would understand. As a result, I thought of a few examples to make my point. That extra work in my brain created extra connections in my brain. It was the kind of brain growth that we read about when we learned about growth mindset. Now when I think about repentance, I have those connections to help me understand it better. Through the expert testimony of others and my own personal experience, I have learned that as I teach to learn, the efforts I make to help others understand will help me understand too, and that will help me succeed in PathwayConnect.*

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Go the next page to write your own paragraph à

## Writing Prompt

*Choose a learning strategy from the course and explain why it can help you succeed in PathwayConnect*.

Write the paragraph parts here

1. **Topic Sentence**

This should state a single controlling idea for the whole paragraph.

“Form New Habits” was a very useful lesson to me because it enlightened me to know what to do in order to form good habits in my life.

1. **Supporting Details.**

Support the topic sentence. Use two supporting details from the approved list (i.e. fact, expert testimony, statistics, personal experience). Write complete sentences.

It has been proven that making a new habit in someone’s life can take anywhere between 18 and 250 days, depending on the type of habit one’s trying to develop. In my case, I struggled with biting my nails throughout all my life. I even bit off the skin on my fingers. I never really identified the cause but, looking back on it, I think it was my way of escaping stress. About two years ago I had to start using brackets. How does this relate with forming good habits? Having brackets made nail biting a painful and horrible experience. This was because every time I bit something hard, like my nails, I experienced extreme pain. This is when I identified that this could be a great opportunity to eliminate the habit of biting my nails. Every time I would move my hand towards my mouth or think about biting my nails, I would think of the pain and immediately perform another action instead of biting my nails. These were simple, small activities such as cracking my knuckles, playing with my fingers, and really anything but biting my nails. With time, I stopped biting my nails completely and it has stayed like that up to this day. Looking back on it, I followed all the steps that the “Form New Habits” lesson recommends, and I’ve identified that each of these steps is important for me to replace bad habits in my life or adding good habits to it.

1. **Concluding Sentence.**

This should sum up the supporting details of the paragraph and reinforce the topic sentence.

To sum it all up, “Form New Habits” made me know what made my personal experience with stopping to bite my nails successful; I will never forget how to form good and new habits in my life.

Paste the paragraph parts together here. Indent the first line. Do not separate lines with space.

“Form New Habits” was a very useful lesson to me because it enlightened me to know what to do in order to form good habits in my life. It has been proven that making a new habit in someone’s life can take anywhere between 18 and 250 days, depending on the type of habit one’s trying to develop. In my case, I struggled with biting my nails throughout all my life. I even bit off the skin on my fingers. I never really identified the cause but, looking back on it, I think it was my way of escaping stress. About two years ago I had to start using brackets. How does this relate with forming good habits? Having brackets made nail biting a painful and horrible experience. This was because every time I bit something hard, like my nails, I experienced extreme pain. This is when I identified that this could be a great opportunity to eliminate the habit of biting my nails. Every time I would move my hand towards my mouth or think about biting my nails, I would think of the pain and immediately perform another action instead of biting my nails. These were simple, small activities such as cracking my knuckles, playing with my fingers, and really anything but biting my nails. With time, I stopped biting my nails completely and it has stayed like that up to this day. Looking back on it, I followed all the steps that the “Form New Habits” lesson recommends, and I’ve identified that each of these steps is important for me to replace bad habits in my life or adding good habits to it. To sum it all up, “Form New Habits” made me know what made my personal experience with stopping to bite my nails successful; I will never forget how to form good and new habits in my life.