



Writing in the Sciences

Module 3.5: More paragraph practice

Headache is an extraordinarily common pain symptom that virtually everyone experiences at one time or another. As a pain symptom, headaches have many causes. The full range of these causes were categorized by the International Headache Society (IHS) in 1988. The IHS distinguishes two broad groups of headache disorders: primary headache disorders and secondary headache disorders. Secondary headache disorders are a consequence of an underlying condition, such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection or a head injury. In primary headache disorders, the headache disorder is the fundamental problem; it is not symptomatic of another cause. The two most common types of primary headache disorders are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine. Although IHS is the most broadly used/recognized classification system used, a brief comment on others would be appropriate – especially if there are uses that have epidemiologic advantages.

verb-tally

to be: 8; to have: 2; passive verbs: 1;
Others → experiences, distinguishes

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wordiness tally

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watch repetition

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Repetition can sometimes help transitions, but here it's just repetitive!

avoid meta-comment

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outline ideas

Headache is an extraordinarily common pain symptom that virtually everyone experiences at one time or another. As a pain symptom, headaches have many causes. The full range of these causes were categorized by the International Headache Society (IHS) in 1988. The IHS distinguishes two broad groups of headache disorders: primary headache disorders and secondary headache disorders. Secondary headache disorders are a consequence of an underlying condition, such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection or a head injury. In primary headache disorders, the headache disorder is the fundamental problem; it is not symptomatic of another cause. The two most common types of primary headache disorders are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine. Although IHS is the most broadly used/recognized classification system used, a brief comment on others would be appropriate – especially if there are uses that have epidemiologic advantages.

Idea flow chart (outline)...

I. The IHS classifies headaches by cause, which may be primary or secondary.

Main idea of the paragraph

A. Primary headache disorders are...

i. Most common examples include: episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine

Supporting ideas → define primary and secondary

B. Secondary headache disorders are...

i. Example include: brain tumor, a systemic infection or a head injury

Sub-supporting ideas → illustrative examples of primary and secondary



Sentence-level editing

Headache is an extraordinarily common pain symptom that virtually everyone experiences at one time or another. As a pain symptom, headaches have many causes. The full range of these causes were categorized by the International Headache Society (IHS) in 1988. The IHS distinguishes two broad groups of headache disorders: primary headache disorders and secondary headache disorders.



Main idea



Headache is a pain symptom that almost everyone experiences. The International Headache Society (IHS) groups headaches into two types based on cause: primary headache disorders and secondary headache disorders.

I. The IHS classifies headaches by cause, which may be primary or secondary.

Main idea of the paragraph

Secondary headache disorders are a consequence of an underlying condition, such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection or a head injury. In primary headache disorders, the headache disorder is the fundamental problem; it is not symptomatic of another cause. The two most common types of primary headache disorders are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine.

Unnecessary
repetition

Empty
words

Effect ← cause / illogical order!
Avoid, if possible...

Also, consider ordering: first
(primary), then second (secondary)



Edited version



In primary headache disorders, the headache itself is the main complaint. The two most common types of primary headache disorder are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine. Secondary headache disorders result from an underlying condition, such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection, or a head injury.



Compare with outline

→

In primary headache disorders, the headache itself is the main complaint. The two most common types of primary headache disorder are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine. **Secondary headache disorders result from an underlying condition,** such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection, or a head injury.

A. Primary headache disorders are...

B. Secondary headache disorders are...

Supporting ideas →
define primary and
secondary



Compare with outline

In primary headache disorders, the headache itself is the main complaint. The two most common types of primary headache disorder are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine. Secondary headache disorders result from an underlying condition, such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection, or a head injury.

i. Most common examples include:
episodic tension-type headache (ETTH)
and migraine

i. Example include: brain tumor,
a systemic infection or a head
injury

Sub-supporting
ideas → illustrative
examples of primary
and secondary



Altogether...

Headache is a pain symptom that almost everyone experiences. The International Headache Society (IHS) groups headaches into two types based on cause: primary headache disorders and secondary headache disorders. In primary headache disorders, the headache itself is the main complaint. The two most common types of primary headache disorder are episodic tension-type headache (ETTH) and migraine. Secondary headache disorders result from an underlying condition, such as a brain tumor, a systemic infection, or a head injury.