

Writing 101 - Paragraph

Following this road map will lead to a more coherent, organized and engaging piece of writing.

<p>Theme statement + Forecast</p>	<p>This is a sentence or two that explains what your paragraph will be about. It can include: author, title, characters, themes and the arguments you will make. It should be clear and concise.</p> <p>Example theme statement: In the novel <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i>, by J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter is a young wizard who must continually battle evil. With the help of his two best friends, Ron and Hermione; Head-Master Dumbledore and some of the Professors at Hogwarts, Harry eventually defeats the wicked Voldemort and successfully completes his first year at Hogwarts.</p>
<p>Argument 1 [Proof]</p>	<p>Arguments help to prove your theme statement. They include: actions, quotes and thoughts, from characters in the text. Ensure that you follow the theme statement for order! Start your argument with a <u>topic sentence</u>, followed by your example(s), and end with a comment to solidify your point.</p> <p>Example argument: <u>Throughout the novel, Harry relies on his two best friends, Ron and Hermione, to help him battle evil.</u> For example, when the trio are required to play a real life edition of chess as their first test, Ron 'sacrifices' himself in order to allow Harry to make it through to the next challenge. Because of this selfless act by Ron, Harry is able to eventually find the 'Philosopher's Stone' and thwart Voldemort.</p>
<p>Argument 2 [Proof]</p>	<p>Continue to write your paragraph by introducing your second piece of proof. Remember to include a <u>topic sentence</u>, followed by your example(s), and end with a comment to solidify your point.</p> <p>Example argument: <u>Many times throughout the story, Harry calls upon Dumbledore, the Headmaster of Hogwarts for help.</u> When Harry's aunt and uncle are unwilling to let Harry read his letter from Hogwarts, it's Dumbledore who sends an owl to fill the house with hundreds of letters. The result of the help from Dumbledore is that Harry eventually enrolls at the Hogwarts School for Wizards.</p>

<p>Argument 3 [Proof]</p>	<p>Continue to write your paragraph by introducing your third piece of proof. Remember to include a <u>topic sentence</u>, followed by your <u>example(s)</u>, and end with a comment to solidify your point.</p> <p>Example argument: <u>Although many Professors seemingly don't like Harry, some are very useful in helping him defeat evil.</u> During his first Quidditch match, Harry's broom is put under a spell causing Harry to almost fall off and hurt himself; however, Professor Snape helps Harry by putting a counter-spell on the broom. With this help from Professor Snape, Harry is able to stay on his broom, avoid injury, and help his team to victory in the Quidditch match.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p>	<p>Your conclusion should also be clear and concise. For a paragraph assignment, it should only be 1-2 sentences.</p> <p>It should accomplish the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restate your theme statement (use different wording if poss) ✓ Include a last bit of commentary <p>It should never:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Start a new idea (or argument) <p>Example Conclusion: Throughout the novel, Harry Potter enjoys the help from his best friends, Ron and Hermione, Headmaster Dumbledore, and some other Professors, to help him overcome many evils. In the end, with this help, Harry is able to defeat Voldemort, and along with his friends, successfully completes his first year at Hogwarts.</p>

*not every paragraph will have 3 arguments – sometime you will only have one or two arguments to prove – but, you might have more than one example for each.