

HOW TO WRITE A PARAGRAPH

THE HAMBURGER OUTLINE



(the top bun)

SENTENCE #1: TOPIC SENTENCE

Purpose: What is this paragraph about?
One idea only!

State clearly: One main point/example from the text which proves your **thesis** (argument)

(the veggies)

SENTENCE #2: EXPLANATION SENTENCE

Purpose: Summarize the situation in the text
State clearly: The 5 Ws (who, what, when, where, why and how)

(the meat)

SENTENCE #3: TEXTUAL EVIDENCE (your proof!)

Purpose: Quotation or paraphrasing (with citation) that supports your argument

State clearly: Key details from the text that prove your point
Format: Your words + "quotation" + (author, page #)

(the condiments)

SENTENCE #4: ANALYSIS OF EVIDENCE

Purpose: Explain the meaning of the quotation/paraphrasing
State clearly: Why this part is referring to your main point/example
Include: Subject's key terms and concepts

(the bottom bun)

SENTENCE #5: LINKING SENTENCE

Purpose: How this main point/example proves your thesis
State clearly: Why the main point/example is directly connected to your thesis
Could include: Transition where you hint at what your next main point/example will be