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**NYCCT, fall 2011**

**Paragraph Structure**

A paragraph is a group of sentences about one topic. Most paragraphs have a topic sentence that states the main point and several sentences that explain, illustrate, reinforce, qualify, or prove it. No writer is ever immune to the need to write coherent paragraphs. Examine the best writers. Clear structure is always evident.

Simple Paragraph Structures:

1. Thesis sentence, supporting sentences

2. Supporting sentences, thesis sentence

Complex Paragraph Structures:

1. Thesis sentence, supporting sentences, (but) qualifying sentences

2. Qualifying sentences, (but) thesis sentence, supporting sentences

3. Supporting sentences, thesis sentence, (but) qualifying sentences

If you want more information on paragraphs, you can check out this University of North Carolina website.

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/paragraphs.html>

**Your Assignment:** The following paragraph is out of order. Study these sentences and arrange them into a coherent paragraph based on a complex structure.

A. Most cultural critics, historians, and literary critics who write about nostalgia start with this common perception, but they frame “better and simpler” pejoratively.

B. First, they assume a significant and fundamental difference between memory (invented, borrowed, or actual) and the historical archive; the former is considered subjective while the latter is considered more reliable.

C. In common parlance nostalgia is a feeling, a yearning for a better and simpler time, usually located in the near past.

D. These critics and historians argue that nostalgia is the abdication of memory (Lasch), or a betrayal of how things really were (Shaw, Chase), or a rupture of the historical signifier from its signified (Jameson).

E. This fairly straightforward understanding of nostalgia as ideology has produced important and interesting readings of literary nostalgia. But what has been left out, and what requires more attention, is the changing psychological meaning of nostalgia.

F. Second, they assume that this difference is ideological or political.

G. These three views arise from two common foundations.