

## Paragraphs

A paragraph is a collection of related sentences dealing with a single issue. Sentences in a paragraph are used in a variety of ways, particularly to cite evidence supporting the specific issue being discussed, to explain the issue, or to comment on it. Introductory, Body, and Concluding Paragraphs each have a distinct purpose.

### Introductory Paragraphs

Introductions invite your reader in, provide necessary background and contextual information for your essay, and hopefully engage the attention of your reader. The introductory paragraph ENDS WITH A CONCISE STATEMENT OF YOUR ARGUMENT, i.e., A THESIS STATEMENT.

### Body Paragraphs

Each body paragraph lays out one key element or point in your overall argument. Try to begin each body paragraph with a topic sentence, which concisely represents the content of the paragraph.

### Concluding Paragraphs

Conclusions reflect on and consider the possible implications of your argument and findings. They may also raise questions for future consideration and/or explain the importance of your findings. Keep in mind this word of advice from one student: “If you are reading an essay and at the end of the whole thing you read basically the same thing as what the essay started with, you’re going to be really annoyed.”

### [How To Organize and Develop a Paragraph](#)

### [How To Use Patterns for Developing Paragraphs](#)

### [How To Use Patterns for Developing Paragraphs](#)

### [How To Write a Paragraph](#)

### [How To Develop a Paragraph](#)

Adapted from *What Is Writing?: An Introduction to Writing as an Act and Medium of Communication* (2015).



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