

Writing a Series of Paragraphs



What is a series of paragraphs ?

- A series of at least 3 linked paragraphs that develops a topic and expresses your point of view
- Has an introduction and a conclusion
- States your opinion and provides reasons why you hold this opinion

The Introduction

- Creates an interesting opening
- Clearly states an opinion
- Includes the subtopics (one for each body paragraph)



Body Paragraphs

Paragraph format: topic sentence, supporting evidence, concluding sentence

Support your opinion in order to persuade the reader

- Explain/give evidence
- Include at least two supporting details for each reason
- These details could be facts, examples, or explanations that support your opinion

Don't get off topic!

The Conclusion



Restates or summarizes the piece of writing:

- expresses your opinion in different words
- highlights the reasons developed in each body paragraph

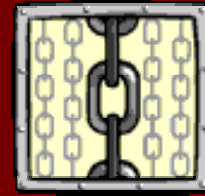
NEVER introduce new information in the conclusion

Tips



- Read the writing prompt at least twice
- Decide what your opinion is and write it down in the space provided
- Think of 2 or 3 reasons why you hold this opinion
- Think of examples, facts, to support your reasons

Linking Words



Use linking words and phrases to connect ideas:

- **Emphasis Words**

Also, again, in fact, for this reason, most importantly

- **Clarifying Words**

For example, that is, for instance, such as, like

- **Summarizing Words**

Finally, in conclusion, therefore, as a result

The Process



Topic:

Should students have part-time jobs?

Step 1: Brainstorm possible reasons for each side

Yes: *need money, support family, learn skills and values, organize time*

No: *focus on school, lack of sleep/homework, drop out of school*

Step 2: Choose a position

Students should be encouraged to have part-time jobs.

Step 3: Reasons for this opinion

Skills and values

Money

Step 4: Write the series of paragraphs

Step 5: Review and edit your writing

Look at an example

- Read the example provided
- Highlight the writer's opinion, reasons for this opinion, topic sentences and linking words



It's your turn!



- ***Task:*** Write a series of paragraphs (a minimum of three) expressing an opinion on the topic below. Develop your main idea with supporting details (proofs, facts, examples, etc.).
- ***Purpose and Audience:*** An adult who is interested in your opinion.
- ***Topic:***
“Should uniforms be mandatory in school?”

Special Instructions

This is a timed exercise!



You have exactly 30 minutes to complete it!