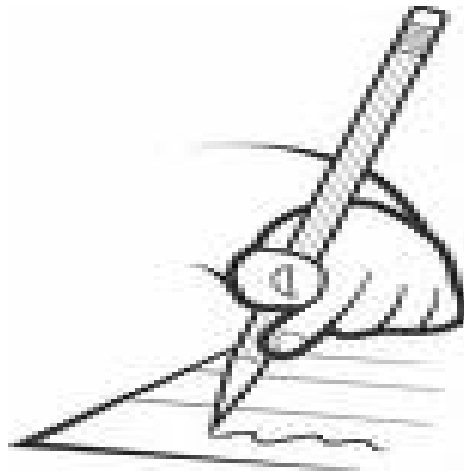


PARAGRAPH



What is a Paragraph?

A paragraph is a piece of writing that consists on one or more sentences. Sometimes , the first line is indented.

Indentation



Parts of a Paragraph

Parts of a paragraph are

1. Topic Sentence
2. Supporting Sentence
3. Closing Sentence

Topic Sentence

- What is it?

It is usually the first sentence in a paragraph.

- What does it do?

It introduces the main idea of the paragraph

- How do I write one?

Summarize the main idea of the paragraph

Supporting Details

What are supporting details?

They come after the topic sentence

They make up the body of the paragraph

What do they do?

They give **details and support** the main idea

How do I write them?

Give supporting facts, details, and examples

Closing Sentence

What is it?

The last sentence in a paragraph

What does it do?

It restates the **main idea**

How do I write one?

- Restate the main idea but **using different words**
- The closing sentence should be very similar to the topic sentence.

Transition Sentence

What is it?

The last sentence of a paragraph (instead of closing sentence)

What does it do?

Closes one topic while **leading** into the next

How do I write one?

Summarize main idea of paragraph and **hint** at topic for next one

Think Of A Paragraphs As Cheeseburgers!

You have the buns on top and bottom

Topic sentence

Closing sentence

You have the burger in the middle

Supporting details

You have the extras: cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, condiments

Extra details, quotations, and examples to spice it up

Sometimes it is a double or triple-decker!

Transition sentences needed to lead into the next

Steps of a Paragraph

- There are five steps to write a good paragraph.

1. Brainstorming
2. Organizing Ideas
3. Writing the First Draft
4. Editing
5. Final Work

1. Brainstorming

- In this step you should think and write down any ideas about a topic you want to write about.

2. Organizing Ideas

In this step you should organize your ideas by creating a cluster or an outline about what you want to write about.



Outline

- | |
|--|
| <p>I. Main Idea</p> <p>A. Supporting details</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2. <p>B. Supporting details</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2. |
|--|

3. Writing The First Draft

In this step you should write your paragraph for the first time, not taking much into account about the cohesion, coherence grammar, or spelling.

4. Editing

In this step you should revise all the errors about coherence and cohesion that your paragraph may have.

First Draft

When I did the reading for this course, I found lots of ideas about the nature of learning. Most of the text books in all my courses discuss learning. ~~Some of the theories are very complicated and hard to understand.~~ ^{not relevant repeated in last sentence} ~~Some people believe learning is getting something that the teacher puts into your head, and that learners are like empty vessels waiting to be filled.~~ ^{who?} ~~Some educational psychologists say that it is something that happens over a number of stages.~~ ^{unclear} ~~Others think it is a way of thinking about the world. Now it is thought to be constructed.~~ ^{who? needs more explanation} ~~At this stage I believe that learning is probably socially constructed, but it's a big complicated and involved topic and it's hard to have a definite opinion.~~ ^{unnecessary repetitive & vague it is}

Edited Version

There have been many theories that try to explain the nature of learning. ^{connective added} Although it is still popularly believed that learning is a product that can be transferred from teacher to student, educational psychology suggests otherwise. The work of Piaget (quoted in Brown 1996:233-237) showed that learning is related to cognitive development and that children's ability to understand the world is linked to a series of developmental stages. ^{connective} However, recent research ^{evidence now inserted} (Bruner 1981; Smith 1996) has shown that learning is also socially and culturally constructed. ^{Connective} Therefore, it is difficult to define what learning is, ^{Connective} but it seems certain that it is a complex process that will never be adequately explained by any one theory. ^{big, complicated and involved has been reduced to 'complex'}

Handwritten notes on the original draft:

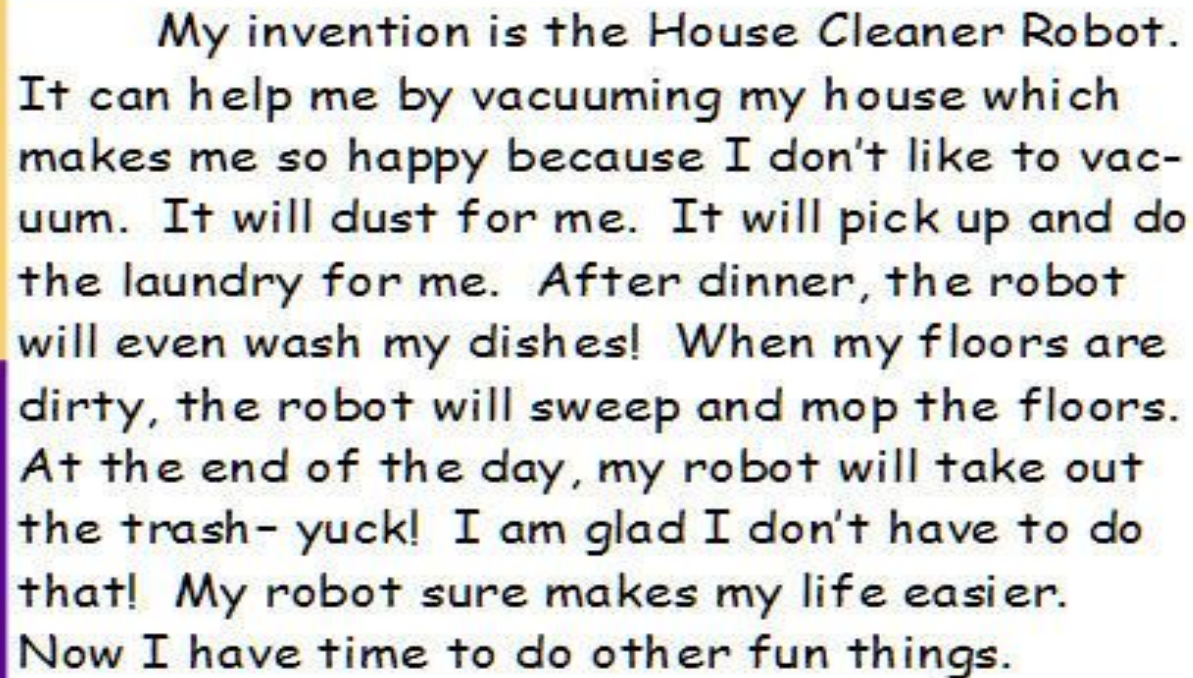
- language too vague & informal
- Too much use of I here, & not enough evidence of reading
- it is

Handwritten notes on the edited version:

- a more concise explanation of this idea
- connective added
- explains this belief is held by the general population
- evidence now inserted
- Connective
- Connective
- big, complicated and involved has been reduced to 'complex'

5. Final Work

In this step you should revise all the spelling or grammar errors. And that's it. Your paragraph is done !



My invention is the House Cleaner Robot. It can help me by vacuuming my house which makes me so happy because I don't like to vacuum. It will dust for me. It will pick up and do the laundry for me. After dinner, the robot will even wash my dishes! When my floors are dirty, the robot will sweep and mop the floors. At the end of the day, my robot will take out the trash- yuck! I am glad I don't have to do that! My robot sure makes my life easier. Now I have time to do other fun things.

How Long Is A Paragraph?

- 5-6 sentences in TOTAL
- 1 Topic sentence
- 1 Closing/Transition sentence
- 3-4 sentences of supporting details

Additional Details...

- Titles of stories should be put in “quotation marks”.
- Titles of novels, plays (larger works of literature or movies) should be underlined.