

### Sample Writing Plan for Descriptive Paragraph

**Topic Sentence:** My English professor's tiny office is a study in clutter.

**Topic Sentence Question:** In what ways is my English professor's office a study in clutter?

**Details that answer the topic sentence question:**

- See piles of paper from the doorway
- 2-foot mountain of old papers on file cabinet in rear of office
- Desk has 4 piles of papers, one on each corner
- Beside desk hangs bulletin board covered with paraphernalia
  - Pictures
  - Cartoons
  - Quotes
- Books piled on board n radiator under bulletin board
- Floor to ceiling bookcase overloaded with books spilling onto floor
- Green plastic visitor's chair is piled with stuff
  - Papers
  - Briefcase
  - Newspaper
  - Jacket
  - Gym bag

**Concluding (Tie-back) Sentence:** My professor doesn't seem to mind the clutter, saying, "Oh, have a seat if you can find one.")

Outline adapted from sample descriptive paragraph from Anker, Susan. Real Writing with Readings. Instructional CD. Paragraph by Michael Barone