

Writing a Paragraph

A paragraph consists of several sentences that are grouped together. Most groups of sentences together discuss **one main topic**. Paragraphs have **three principal parts**: the topic sentence, body sentences, and the concluding sentence.

• Topic sentence or topic sentence

A topic sentence usually comes at the beginning of a paragraph. It is the **most important sentence** in a paragraph. It means that there are not many details in the sentence, but that the sentence introduces a general idea or topic that you want to discuss later in the paragraph.

Example:

Be careful whenever you're around an animal's pen.

• Body lines **detail** previous or supporting sentence

Lines are called "supporting" because they "support" or explain the topic introduced in the topic sentence. At minimum, you should have at least **three to five** sentences in your paragraph. Each sentence should help explain about the topic.

Example:

Be careful whenever you're around an animal's pen.

NO The dog brought home bones from sandwiches, apples and hot dogs.

NO While we walked our dog's pen, under a tree, it was very quiet and

NO Suddenly the quiet animal was disturbed by a loud noise of the off to state and brought.

