

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.

1. 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:

Beach swimming is very popular in Mississippi.

2. Body lines **detail** sentences or supporting sentences

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

Example:

Beach swimming is very popular in Mississippi.

Beach swimming is very popular in Mississippi. People like to go to the beach to relax and enjoy the sun.

Beach swimming is very popular in Mississippi. There are many beautiful beaches in Mississippi.

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