

Worksheet for an Academic Paragraph

THE TOPIC SENTENCE: The topic sentence introduces the main points (usually three) for the paragraph.

1 or 2 sentences defining unfamiliar terms in the paragraph may be inserted before proceeding to the first point.

1

THE FIRST MAIN POINT: The next sentence (after any definitions) presents the first point found in the topic sentence:

The wording is similar to the topic sentence so that the reader recognizes the outline of the paragraph.

SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST POINT: Quotations, examples, logic, explanations, or ideas:	SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST POINT: Quotations, examples, logic, explanations, or ideas:
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2

THE SECOND MAIN POINT: The next sentence refers to the second point mentioned in the topic sentence:

SUPPORT FOR THE SECOND POINT: The type of support used does not have to be identical:	SUPPORT FOR THE SECOND POINT: The type of support used does not have to be identical:
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3

THE THIRD MAIN POINT: The next sentence refers to the third point mentioned in the topic sentence:

SUPPORT FOR THE THIRD POINT: Support the third point:	SUPPORT FOR THE THIRD POINT: Support the third point:
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4

THE CONCLUDING SENTENCE: The concluding sentence summarizes the points introduced in the topic sentence and discussed/proven in the paragraph. Similar words are used to show a direct relationship with the topic sentence.

The concluding sentence does not introduce new information, but it may make an appeal for more research or study.

5

Provided by the Regent University Writing Center as one approach for writing an academic paragraph. It is by no means the only way.