

Review Paragraph Parts — Topic, Detail, Closing

How to use: Print first for the main practice. Then use the device to repeat activities and save progress.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1 Identify the three parts of a paragraph — topic sentence, detail sentences, and closing sentence
- 2 Arrange mixed-up sentence strips into a correctly ordered paragraph
- 3 Keep every sentence in a paragraph connected to the same main idea

MINI LESSON

Every time you write more than one sentence about the same idea, you are writing a paragraph. Every good paragraph has three parts that work together like a team.

The Topic Sentence

- Always comes first in the paragraph.
- Tells the reader the main idea — what the whole paragraph is about.
- Example: Dogs make wonderful pets.

Detail Sentences

- Come in the middle, right after the topic sentence.
- Support the topic with facts, examples, or reasons.
- A strong paragraph has at least two detail sentences.
- They answer the question: How do you know?

The Closing Sentence

- Always comes last in the paragraph.
- Wraps up the paragraph and reminds the reader of the main idea — often in a fresh way.
- Example: That is why dogs are such great companions.

The One-Idea Rule

- Every sentence in a paragraph must connect to the same main idea.
- If a sentence wanders off-topic, it does not belong.

VOCABULARY

Paragraph A group of sentences that are all about the same main idea
e.g. A paragraph about butterflies has a topic sentence, detail sentences, and a closing sentence.

Topic sentence The first sentence of a paragraph — it states the main idea
e.g. Butterflies are truly amazing insects.

Detail sentence A sentence in the middle of a paragraph that supports the topic with a fact, example, or reason
e.g. They start life as tiny caterpillars hatched from eggs.

Closing sentence The last sentence of a paragraph — it wraps up the main idea, often in a fresh way
e.g. That is why watching butterflies is one of nature's greatest wonders.

A Paragraph Has 3 Parts

1. Topic Sentence

States the main idea - comes FIRST



2. Detail Sentence 1
Supports the topic with a fact



3. Detail Sentence 2
Adds another supporting fact



4. Closing Sentence - wraps it up

Example Paragraph

1. TOPIC

Dogs make wonderful pets.

2. DETAIL

They are loyal and love to play.

3. DETAIL

Dogs can be trained to help people.

4. CLOSING

That is why dogs are such great companions for families.

! Ask yourself: Can I name the three parts of a paragraph in order and explain what each one does?

TRACING PRACTICE

Trace each sentence, then copy it once on the lines below. Each sentence should start with a capital letter and end with the correct mark.

TRACE

A paragraph has

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

Topic comes first.

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

Details add more

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

The closing wraps

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

Stay on one main

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

paragraph

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

topic

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

detail

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

closing

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE

sentence

COPY 1

COPY 2

Tip: After tracing each word, cover it and try writing it from memory.

EXERCISES — BUILD THE SENTENCES

Use the word chips for each line to build the correct sentence. Write it neatly on the lines — capital letter at the start, finger-space between words, period at the end.

1. **insects** **Butterflies** **truly** **.** **are** **amazing**

2. **They** **.** **caterpillars** **hatched** **life** **from** **tiny** **eggs** **start** **as**

3. **Inside** **they** **beautiful** **grow** **.** **their** **a** **slowly** **,** **wings** **chrysalis**

4. **butterflies** **of** **one** **wonders** **.** **is** **watching** **why** **greatest** **is** **nature's**

That

5. **make** **fun** **more** **Good** **friends** **every** **much** **day** **.**

6. you carefully listen have to a . share They when problem

7. cheer up feel . True you you sad friends whenever

8. is is That having life's friend why one of gifts a . greatest
good

9. is incredible Our system . place an solar

10. all . eight orbit planets sun has the that It

11. Each color size in . , its and surface , is planet unique
features

12. . stop exploring space scientists never is why That outer

EXERCISES — MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What is the purpose of a topic sentence?

- To end the paragraph with a conclusion
- To tell the reader the main idea of the whole paragraph
- To add an interesting fact in the middle

2. Where does the topic sentence appear in a paragraph?

- At the very beginning
- At the very end
- Anywhere the writer chooses

3. What do detail sentences do in a paragraph?

- They introduce a brand new topic
- They end the paragraph with a summary
- They support the main idea with facts, examples, or reasons

4. Where do detail sentences appear in a paragraph?

- Always at the very beginning
- In the middle, between the topic and closing sentences
- Always at the very end

5. What does a closing sentence do?

- It wraps up the paragraph and reminds the reader of the main idea
- It introduces a new topic for the next paragraph
- It repeats the detail sentences word for word

6. Which sentence would make the best topic sentence for a paragraph about summer?

- I wore sunscreen at the beach.
- Summer is my favorite season of all.
- That is why summer is so much fun.

7. Which sentence works best as a detail sentence in a paragraph about healthy eating?

- Eating well is very important for our bodies.
- That is why we should always choose healthy foods.
- Fruits and vegetables give our bodies important vitamins.

8. Which sentence would make the best closing sentence for a paragraph about books?

- Libraries have thousands of books to choose from.
- That is why reading is one of the best hobbies anyone can have.
- Books can be found in stores and online.

9. How many main ideas should one paragraph have?

- As many interesting ideas as possible
- Two or three related ideas
- Exactly one main idea

10. What is the correct order of the parts in a paragraph?

- Detail, closing, topic
- Closing, topic, detail
- Topic, detail, closing

ASSESSMENT

PARENT / TEACHER CHECKLIST

- Points to the topic sentence in a given paragraph and states what main idea it introduces.
- Identifies each detail sentence and explains how it supports the topic.
- Identifies the closing sentence and says that it wraps up the paragraph.
- Arranges four mixed-up sentence strips into a correctly ordered paragraph without help.