

How to Write a Paragraph

A paragraph is a group of sentences about a single idea. A paragraph has to have a **main idea** and include **details** to support that topic.

A basic paragraph has at least 5 sentences:

1. Sentence One: Topic sentence

A topic sentence tells what the main idea of the paragraph is. Without a good topic sentence, the paragraph is confusing and lacks any direction.

2. Sentence Two: First Detail sentence

Detail sentences tell specific information about the topic sentence.

3. Sentence Three: Second Detail sentence

4. Sentence Four: Third Detail sentence

5. Sentence Five: Closing Sentence (Concluding Sentence)

A closing sentence brings the paragraph to an end by restating the main idea of the paragraph. A closing sentence DOES NOT repeat the topic, it states it in a different way. It never gives any new information.

Example:

Media Studies is the most amazing class you can take when you are in grade 11. First of all, you get to talk about relevant topics from the news and entertainment world. Next, you get to work on these awesome projects like creating your own advertisements and TV shows. Finally, you get to watch TV shows in class and look at how they were created and why we watch them. Media Studies is definitely a class you should consider taking in grade 11.

The Castaway Paragraph 2

Today you are going to write your second paragraph about the novel *The Castaway*.

Your paragraph must have five sentences:

1. Topic sentence
2. First detail sentence
3. Second detail sentence
4. Third detail sentence
5. Closing sentence (concluding sentence)

Write a rough copy first. Check that you have five well written sentences, and then be sure you have no spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors. Next, write a good copy. Your paragraph must be *neatly* written in blue or black pen. Your page must be set up in MLA format. This paragraph is worth 20 marks.

Your topic:

Choose 3 character traits to describe Daniel. Use textual evidence from the chapters we've read so far to back up your choices. There are a list of traits on the back of this page to help get you started.

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8Z LA

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Washed Ashore

Three character traits I would use to describe Daniel are

_____, _____, and _____. I think Daniel is _____ because in

the book he...

