

HOW TO WRITE A PARAGRAPH

THE HAMBURGER OUTLINE



(the top bun)
SENTENCE #1: TOPIC SENTENCE
 Purpose: What is this paragraph about?
 One idea only!
 State clearly: One main point/example from the text which proves your **thesis** (argument)

(the veggies)
SENTENCE #2: EXPLANATION SENTENCE
 Purpose: Summarize the situation in the text
 State clearly: The 5 Ws (who, what, when, where, why and how)

(the meat)
SENTENCE #3: TEXTUAL EVIDENCE (your proof!)
 Purpose: Quotation or paraphrasing (with citation) that supports your argument
 State clearly: Key details from the text that prove your point
 Format: Your words + "quotation" + (author, page #)

(the condiments)
SENTENCE #4: ANALYSIS OF EVIDENCE
 Purpose: Explain the meaning of the quotation/paraphrasing
 State clearly: Why this part is referring to your main point/example
 Include: Subject's key terms and concepts

(the bottom bun)
SENTENCE #5: LINKING SENTENCE
 Purpose: How this main point/example proves your thesis
 State clearly: Why the main point/example is directly connected to your thesis
 Could include: Transition where you hint at what your next main point/example will be