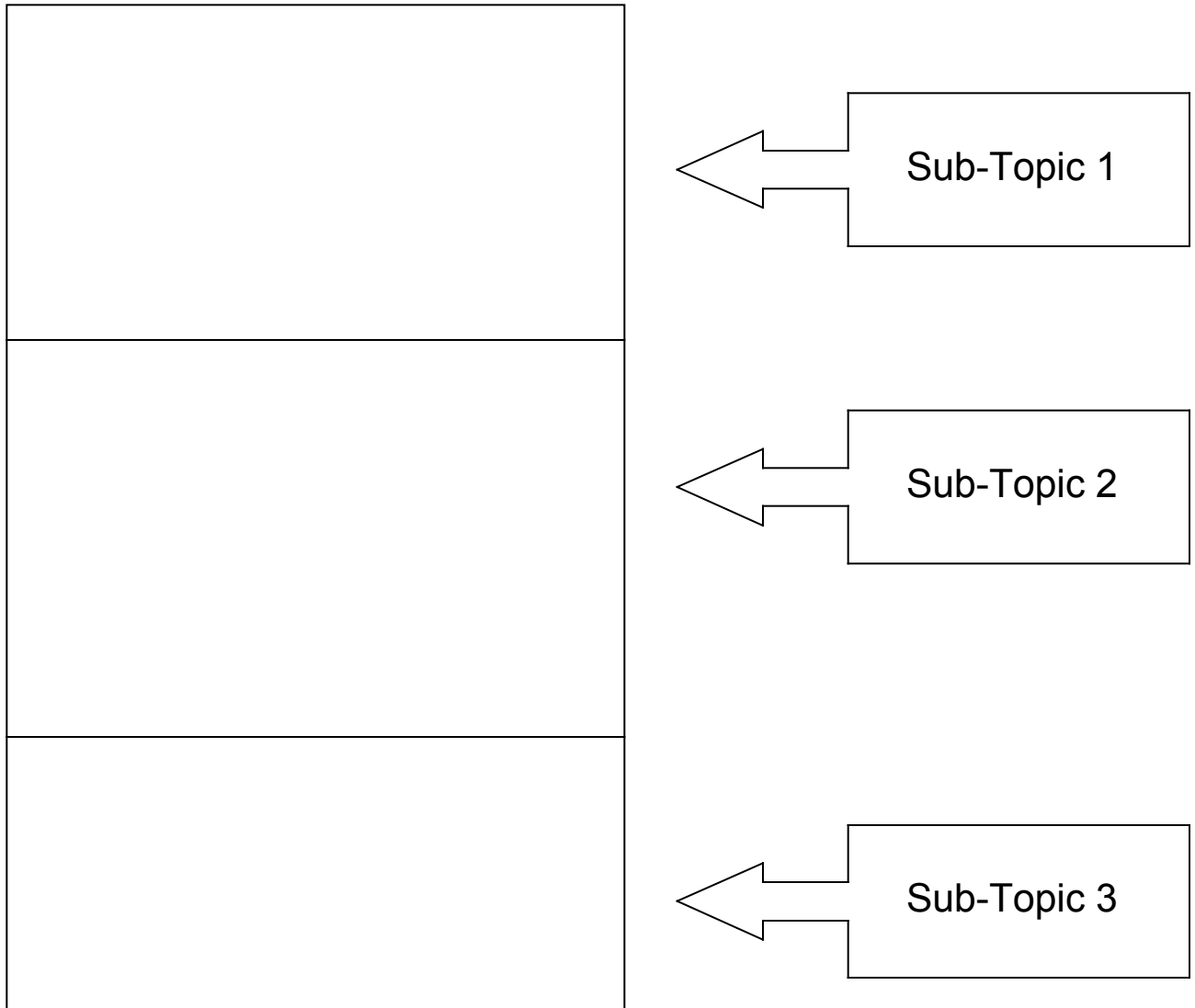


The Body



What is the Body?

The body is made up of the middle three paragraphs of the Five Paragraph Essay. These paragraphs develop, explain, and support the Sub-Topics of the essay.

How long does the Body have to be?

The Body should be at least three paragraphs long.

Body Paragraphs

Topic Sentence
Idea
Evidence
Explain Evidence
Explain Evidence
Evidence
Explain Evidence
Explain Evidence
Idea
Evidence
Explain Evidence
Explain Evidence
Evidence
Explain Evidence
Explain Evidence
Transition Sentence

2 Ideas for each Sub-Topic

At least 2 pieces of Evidence for each Idea

2 Explanations for each piece of Evidence

What is a Body Paragraph?

A Body Paragraph is one of the three middle paragraphs of the Five Paragraph Essay. The Body Paragraph develops, explains, and supports one of the Sub-Topics of the essay.

What information is included in a Body Paragraph?

All of the information from your Pre-Writing (Listing, Webbing, Outlining) is included in the Body Paragraphs of your essay.

What are the parts of a good Body Paragraph?

A good Body Paragraph has a Topic Sentence, 2 Ideas, 4 pieces of Evidence, 8 sentences explaining the Evidence, and a Transition Sentence.

How long does each Body Paragraph have to be?

Each Body Paragraph should be about sixteen sentences long.

Topic Sentences

What are Topic Sentences?

A Topic Sentence is an introductory sentence that states what will be discussed. The Topic Sentence is the first sentence of a Body Paragraph. It introduces the Sub-Topic and Ideas that will be discussed in the Body Paragraph.

What information is in a Topic Sentence?

One Sub-Topic and the Ideas that support the Sub-Topic are included in the Topic Sentence.

How do I write a Topic Sentence?

You can start by looking at your pre-writing. Find the Sub-Topic you will be writing about, as well as the Ideas for this Sub-Topic. On a separate sheet of paper, weave those three items together to form a sentence.

Example:

Topic	Riding a bike is fun
Sub-Topic	Riding a bike is easy
Idea 1	Anyone can learn how
Idea 2	Once you learn, you never forget

Topic Sentence – Riding a bike is easy because anyone can learn how to ride a bike, and no one ever forgets.

PRACTICE:

Write a Topic Sentence for each of the following:

1. Sub-Topic: People in Australia are friendly
Idea 1: They always have a smile on their faces
Idea 2: They are very helpful to tourists
2. Sub-Topic: Michael Jordan is very athletic
Idea 1: He has high endurance
Idea 2: He has a lot of skill
3. Sub-Topic: Lasagna tastes good
Idea 1: It has lots of cheese
Idea 2: It has lots of sauce

Idea Sentences

What are Idea Sentences?

An Idea Sentence is a sentence that introduces one of your Ideas about a Sub-Topic of your essay. The Idea Sentences are the first part of the “meat” of your essay – the part that supports the Topic and Sub-Topics.

What information is in an Idea Sentence?

That depends on what you have listed in your Pre-Writing. Idea sentences contain your own original thoughts about your Topic.

How do I write an Idea Sentence?

You can start by looking at your Pre-Writing. Find the Sub-Topic you have been writing about and the Idea you have listed for that Sub-Topic. On a separate sheet of paper, write your idea in sentence form. You may want to use a transition word in this sentence so that your Idea Sentence flows from what you already have written.

Example:

Topic	Riding a bike is fun
Sub-Topic	Riding a bike is easy
Idea	Anyone can learn how

Idea Sentence – Anyone, even a child, can learn how to ride a bike, if she sets her mind to it.

PRACTICE:

Write an Idea Sentence for each of the following:

1. Topic: Australia is a great place for a vacation
 Sub-Topic: People in Australia are friendly
 Idea: They always have a smile on their faces
2. Topic: Michael Jordan is the best basketball player ever
 Sub-Topic: Michael Jordan is very athletic
 Idea: He has high endurance
3. Topic: Lasagna is good food
 Sub-Topic: Lasagna tastes good
 Idea: It has lots of cheese

Evidence Sentences

What are Evidence Sentences?

Evidence Sentences provide the factual support for your Ideas. In terms of proving your point, they are the most important part of the essay.

What information is in an Evidence Sentence?

The information you have listed in your Pre-Writing as Evidence is included in your Evidence Sentence. This may take the form of an example, a paraphrase, or a quote from the text.

How do I write an Evidence Sentence?

You can start by looking at your Pre-Writing. Find the Sub-Topic and Idea you will be writing about, as well as the Evidence you have listed. If your Evidence is simply paraphrasing or providing an example, you can write a sentence using what you have listed in your Pre-Writing. However, if you are using a quote (this is usually the best kind of Evidence), you need to write a sentence that includes your quote. Remember that quotes can't be sentences by themselves. Always introduce your quote in the same sentence.

Example:

Topic	Riding a bike is fun
Sub-Topic	Riding a bike is easy
Idea	Once you learn, you never forget
Evidence	Mary Clary has been riding 85 years
Quote	"I've been riding, oh, about eighty-five years now, but there were about twenty where I didn't ride at all."

Evidence Sentence – Mary Clary, a ninety year-old woman from Kalamazoo, says that she has “been riding, oh, about eighty-five years now, but there were about twenty where I didn’t ride at all.”

PRACTICE:

Write an Evidence Sentence for each of the following:

1. Sub-Topic: People in Australia are friendly
Idea: They always have a smile on their faces
Evidence: John Doe says so
Quote: “Everyone I met smiled at me.”
2. Sub-Topic: Michael Jordan is very athletic
Idea : He has high endurance
Evidence: Phil Jackson says he is amazing
Quote: “Playing with the flu like he did is just amazing,”
3. Sub-Topic: Lasagna tastes good
Idea: It has lots of cheese
Evidence: Emeril’s recipe says you need lots of cheese
Quote: “To be really good, lasagna needs lots of gooey cheese.”

Explanation Sentences

What are Explanation Sentences?

Explanation Sentences explain the Evidence in your essay. They immediately follow the Evidence in your Body Paragraphs. You should have two explanations for each piece of Evidence in your Body Paragraph.

What information is in an Explanation Sentence?

The information you have listed in your Pre-Writing as Explanation is included in your Explanation Sentence. The Explanation Sentence explains the Evidence that precedes it.

How do I write an Explanation Sentence?

You can start by looking at your Pre-Writing. Find the Evidence you are trying to explain, as well as the Explanation you have listed for that Evidence. Write a sentence linking the Explanation and the Evidence.

Example:

Topic	Riding a bike is fun
Sub-Topic	Riding a bike is easy
Idea	Once you learn, you never forget
Evidence	Mary Clary has been riding 85 years
Quote	"I've been riding, oh, about eighty-five years now, but there were about twenty where I didn't ride at all."
Explanation	If she can do it, anyone can

Evidence Sentence – Mary Clary, a ninety year-old woman from Kalamazoo, says that she has “been riding, oh, about eighty-five years now, but there were about twenty where I didn't ride at all.”

Explanation Sentence – If Mary Clary can ride at her age, after twenty years away from a bicycle, then anyone can.

PRACTICE:

Write an Explanation Sentence for each of the following:

1. Sub-Topic: People in Australia are friendly
Idea: They always have a smile on their faces
Evidence: John Doe says so
Quote: “Everyone I met smiled at me.”
Explanation: This is a typical experience
2. Sub-Topic: Michael Jordan is very athletic
Idea : He has high endurance
Evidence: Phil Jackson says he is amazing
Quote: “Playing with the flu like he did is just amazing,”
Explanation: Phil Jackson has coached a lot of players
3. Sub-Topic: Lasagna tastes good
Idea: It has lots of cheese
Evidence: Emeril’s recipe says you need lots of cheese
Quote: “To be really good, lasagna needs lots of gooey cheese.”
Explanation: Emeril is a great chef

Transition Sentences

What are Transition Sentences?

A Transition Sentence is a concluding sentence that wraps up the discussion of one paragraph and introduces the Sub-Topic to be discussed in the next paragraph. The Transition Sentence is the last sentence of a Body Paragraph.

What information is in a Transition Sentence?

Both the Sub-Topic discussed in this paragraph and the Sub-Topic of the next paragraph are included in the Transition Sentence.

How do I write a Transition Sentence?

You can start by looking at your pre-writing. Find the Sub-Topic you have been writing about and the Sub-Topic you will be writing about next. On a separate sheet of paper, weave those two items together to form a sentence. You may also want to use a transition word in this sentence.

Example:

Topic	Riding a bike is fun
Sub-Topic 1	Riding a bike is easy
Sub-Topic 2	Riding a bike is good exercise

Transition Sentence – Though it may be easy, riding a bike is also an excellent form of exercise.

PRACTICE:

Write a Transition Sentence for each of the following:

1. Topic: Australia is a great place for a vacation
Sub-Topic 1: People in Australia are friendly
Sub-Topic 2: Australia has beautiful scenery
2. Topic: Michael Jordan is the best basketball player ever
Sub-Topic 1: Michael Jordan is very athletic
Sub-Topic 2: Michael Jordan has won many championships
3. Topic: Lasagna is good food
Sub-Topic 1: Lasagna tastes good
Sub-Topic 2: Lasagna is good for you