

HOW TO TEACH WRITING A 5 SENTENCE PARAGRAPH TEMPLATE

Ask students to write a topic sentence that clearly indicates what the whole Show them numerous examples of well-written paragraphs and have them identify.

In some instances though you may raise questions or direct your reader to reconsider a specific aspect of your writing in an effort to challenge their thinking beyond this point. This ensures students can take the just-right organizer for their needs and can glue it into their writing journals so it does not get lost. Show him how to write a spaghetti and meatball outline. A reluctance to learn how to organize writing in favor of just plunging in. Thesis Statement: The thesis statement represents the main idea of the text as a whole and usually occurs in the opening paragraph. This is common practice in persuasive writing and some narrative styles such as mystery writing. We have whole-brain gestures for our paragraphs that look like this “ These gestures are perfect for giving students a tangible way to remember the parts of the paragraph, as well as, offer a cue when I am working with students or students are working with each other. I mean BIG kids write paragraphs and now, we are writing them!!! A five sentence paragraph consists of a main idea sentence, three sentences that explain the main idea with reasons, details or facts and a concluding sentence. Even with different forms, I am really intentional about color-coding as we write. Then working together students create and write individual paragraphs using an organizer and then, write their formal paragraphs color-coding their paragraphs. Encourage your students to imbue their writing with color and vitality by weaving anecdotes, verbal illustrations, rich details, and facts and figures throughout their writing. They help the writer organize their thoughts during the writing process and further help the reader follow the thread of those thoughts in the reading. Writing is a craft and like any craft some refining is required. The topic sentence also serves the purpose of unifying the other sentences in the paragraph, while further setting up the order of those sentences. At this point weeks into paragraph writing, this is what our independent, work-on-writing paragraphs look like. Instruct students that a move to a new paragraph in their writing is symbolic of the physical change of place - this will help them remember to start a new paragraph. Unfortunately, recent studies show us that surprisingly few college graduates are able to achieve this, despite writing and communications skills being the most requested job requirements across all industries - including engineering and IT. Fortunately, teaching what appears to be an apparently amorphous skill such as writing can be broken down into clear step-by-step processes and this includes how to write well-structured, coherent paragraphs. This can only be attained through lots of practice - which means lots of writing. Another useful way to determine when to start a new paragraph is to note that a new paragraph is necessary when there is a change of focus on a: Person: This could be a character in a story or an important figure in a history, for example. The last noodle is the concluding sentence. Usually, these topics will become apparent during the planning process. Topic: Though usually united by the thesis statement or similar, a piece of writing will often explore clearly differentiated topics in its course. Join Me! In summary, 1st graders should be able to independently write a cohesive paragraph by the end of the year. A skill that is hard won, but easily carried. It is often helpful to consider paragraphs as the distinct units in the planning process. First Name Email Address We use this field to detect spam bots. If you fill this in, you will be marked as a spammer. Place: As with a changing focus on a person, a shift from one location to another is most often best noted with a corresponding change in paragraphing. The ability to write strong paragraphs is an essential part of this. The planning stage of writing serves the same purpose as architectural blueprints, that is: to foresee the problems of construction and solve them before building begins. Link: Provide a bridge into the next paragraph at the end of the current paragraph by using a transition that links to the next paragraph and the main idea or thesis statement. Paragraphs are a group of single sentences united by a single topic or idea that help keep writing organized. Although this transfer from organizer to paragraph seems simple and intuitive, it does take explicit modeling “ indenting the main idea, placing the sentences right after one another without skipping lines, etc. Happy Teaching! Thanks so much for joining me. Then, around paragraph 3 everything seems to click as groups are rocking their paragraph organization and have the best conversations with each other about the paragraphs. As we begin paragraph writing, we begin reading lots, and lots, and lots of paragraphs. One of the three main writing strands for 1st grade, our six-year old friends are expected to be able to introduce a topic, give and explain a detail, and then, wrap-up their

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thinking.