



University of Tikrit

College of Education for Women

English Department

Subject: Writing in Paragraphs

1st year

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Paragraph review

Lecture 4

In this unit, we will learn

- paragraph review
- parts of a paragraph
- using adjectives in sentences
- capitalization
- How do you use word maps to brainstorm?

Paragraph review

What is a paragraph ?

A paragraph: is a group of about 6-12 sentences about one topic. Every sentence is about the same topic. All of the sentences explain the writer's main idea about that topic .

Parts of a paragraph

How many parts does a paragraph have ?

A paragraph has three parts :

- 1) Topic sentence
- 2) Supporting sentences
- 3) Concluding sentence

An example of a paragraph: **Jack Collins**

1) **Jack Collins is the most amazing person I have ever met.** 2) He came to my school and talked about his **difficult** life in prison. 3) He was in prison for 15 years. 4) He made a lot of mistakes when he was **young**, but now he has changed his life. 5) He saw a lot of violence in prison, so he uses his experience to help secondary school students. 6) Jack is **tall** and **strong**. 7) He also looks a little **scary** because he has some **spider** tattoos. 8) The thing I remember most is his **sensitive** personality. 9) He really wants to help young people. 10) **I've never met anyone like Jack before.**

1) Topic sentence

- Which sentence is the topic sentence?

* *The topic sentence* occurs at the beginning of a paragraph. It is the first sentence in that paragraph.

The first sentence: *Jack Collins is the most amazing person I have ever met.*

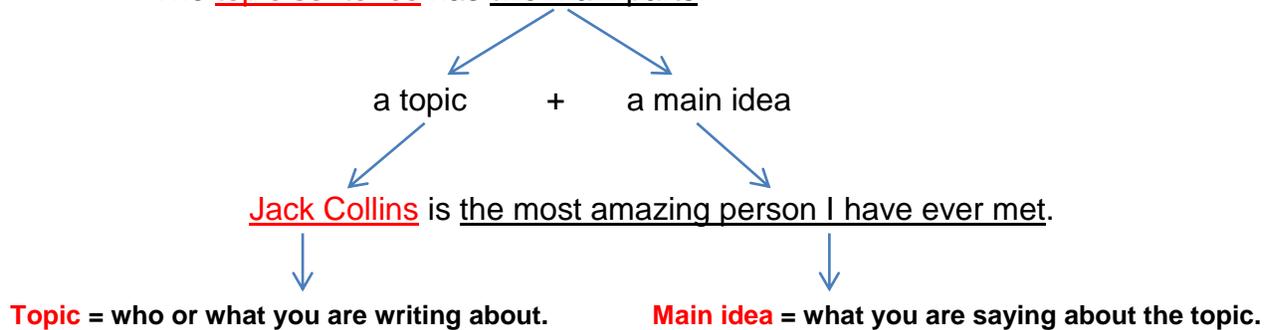
* *The topic sentence* tells the main idea. It is what a paragraph is about.

What is the main idea ?

The *main idea* is what the paragraph is about. It is the most important idea in the paragraph.

What are the main parts of a topic sentence ?

The topic sentence has two main parts:



Using adjectives in sentences

Look again at the paragraph *Jack Collins* you can find many adjectives , for example: *difficult , young , tall , scary and sensitive.*

Note : Nouns can be used as adjectives; for example, *spider tattoos* in the paragraph on page 26 about *Jack Collins*

Adjectives can be used in three different ways:

- Before a noun

Ex: Jack Collins is the most amazing person I have ever met.

- After a form of the be verb

Ex: He made a lot of mistakes when he was young.

- After a verb like taste, sound, look, feel, smell, seem

Ex: He also looks a little scary.

2) Supporting sentences

A good paragraph has :

- a clear topic sentence and
- supporting sentences that explain and support the topic sentence.

What are supporting sentences ?

Supporting sentences support the main idea of the paragraph.

Supporting sentences follow a topic sentence in a paragraph.

Supporting sentences give more information about the topic or give a reader details and explanations to understand a main idea.

3) Concluding sentence

Many (but not all) paragraphs have a concluding sentence. The concluding sentence closes the paragraph.

What is Concluding Sentence?

- It is the last sentence in the paragraph.
- It does not give new details or new information.
- It repeats the main idea in the topic sentence but in different words.

A concluding sentence can :

- restate the topic sentence.
- summarize the main idea of the paragraph.
- make a prediction connected to the paragraphs topic.
- make a suggestion or give advice connected to the topic.

Capitalization

What is Capitalization? It means the first word of a sentence starts with a capital letter.

A word is also capitalized if it is :

- In the title of a piece of writing (paragraph , essay, book), a film, a piece of music, etc.
- Don't capitalize prepositions (of , to, with), articles (a, the), or conjunctions (and, but).

- A name of a group, a place, or a person; that is, a proper noun,
- A day of the week or a month.
- A language or a nationality.

How do you use word maps to brainstorm?

A word map: is another kind of brainstorming. Word maps can help you think of many ideas for your writing and see the connections between the ideas.

Use a separate, whole sheet of paper. How do you use word maps to brainstorm?

- Write your topic in the middle, and draw a circle around it.
- Write an idea about the topic nearby, and circle it.
- Draw a line to connect the circles. This shows that the idea and the topic are related.
- Add more ideas and circle the ideas.
- Draw lines to connect any circles with related ideas.
- Write down as many ideas as you can. Don't worry about whether they are 'good' or 'bad'.
- After you finish, cross out any ideas you don't want to use.