

What is Paragraph Structure?

Worksheet

Paragraph structure has three parts: topic sentence (main idea), supporting sentences (details and examples), and a concluding or linking sentence. This order creates clarity and flow.

Questions

1. A paragraph without a topic sentence is...
 - A) Clear and professional
 - B) Weak and unfocused
 - C) Too formal
 - D) Highly creative
2. How many supporting sentences does a strong paragraph need?
 - A) Exactly one
 - B) Two to four
 - C) At least ten
 - D) None
3. A concluding sentence should...
 - A) Introduce a new idea
 - B) Restate the topic and link to the essay
 - C) Apologize for length
 - D) Ask a question
4. Coherence means...
 - A) Long sentences
 - B) Smooth, logical flow between ideas
 - C) No spelling errors
 - D) Formal vocabulary
5. Write a coherent paragraph on 'Exercise improves mental health.'
6. Structure a paragraph on 'Remote work has disadvantages.'
7. Build a paragraph: 'Social media has both benefits and risks.'
8. Define: What is the most important sentence in a paragraph?
9. Define: Where should the topic sentence go?
10. Define: What do supporting sentences do?

Answer Key

1. B) Weak and unfocused — Readers need to know the main idea upfront; a missing topic sentence confuses them.
2. B) Two to four — Two to four well-developed supporting sentences work best; more may overwhelm.
3. B) Restate the topic and link to the essay — It wraps up the paragraph and connects it to the larger argument.
4. B) Smooth, logical flow between ideas — Readers follow the logic because sentences connect and build on each other.
5. Topic: 'Regular exercise is a proven way to boost mental health and reduce stress.' Support 1: 'Physical activity releases endorphins, natural mood-elevating chemicals.' Support 2: 'A daily 30-minute run or swim lowers anxiety and depression rates significantly.' Support 3: 'Social exercise like group classes adds community, further boosting wellbeing.' Conclusion: 'In short, combining physical movement with social connection creates lasting mental health benefits.'
6. Topic: 'Although remote work offers flexibility, it creates significant workplace challenges.' Support 1: 'Isolation reduces informal learning and mentorship from senior colleagues.' Support 2: 'Video fatigue and communication delays weaken team cohesion.' Support 3: 'Career progression often stalls when managers cannot observe initiative or results.' Conclusion: 'Thus, while remote work suits some, loss of human connection poses real risks.'
7. Topic: 'Social media is a double-edged tool—powerful for connection but risky for wellbeing.' Support 1: 'Platforms enable long-lost friends to reconnect and marginal communities to find voice.' Support 2: 'However, algorithm-driven feeds fuel envy, addiction, and misinformation spread.' Support 3: 'Mental health, especially in teens, suffers from constant comparison and cyberbullying.' Conclusion: 'The key is balanced, intentional use rather than blanket rejection or embrace.'
8. The topic sentence—it tells the reader the main idea of the paragraph.
9. Usually first, though advanced writers sometimes place it second for variety.
10. They provide evidence, examples, reasons, or details that prove the topic sentence.

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