
Body Paragraphs

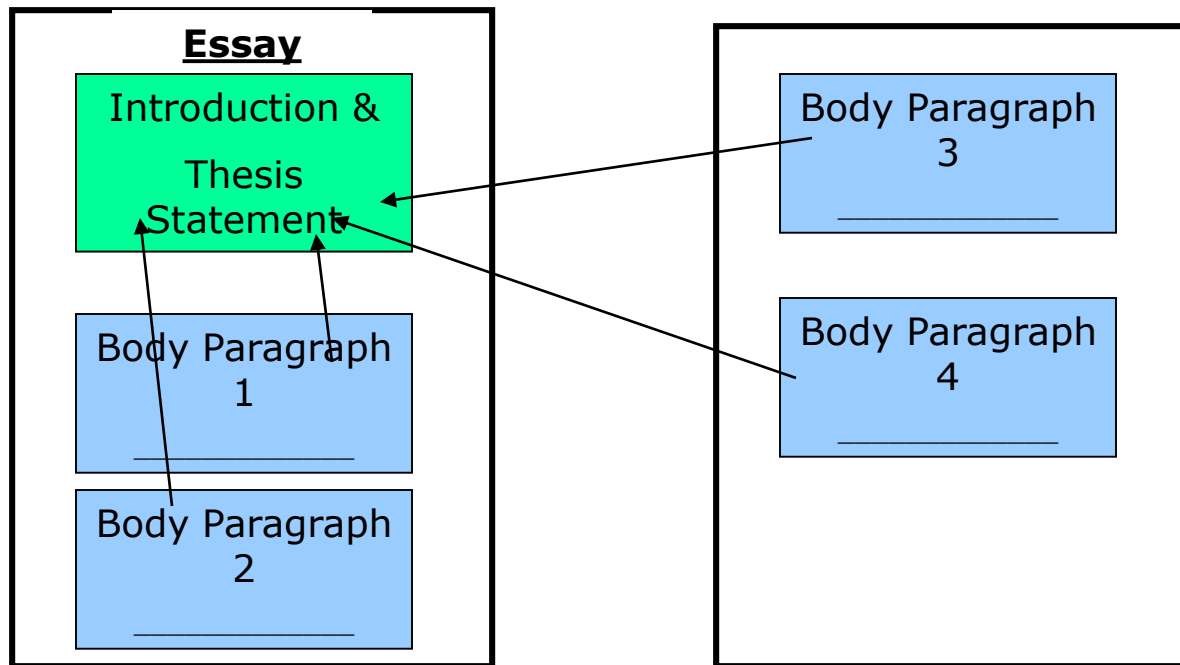
**Support and Expand your
THESIS**

Body Paragraphs

- Contain topic sentences which introduce the paragraph and its connection to your thesis statement.
 - Provide support and evidence for your thesis
 - Connect back, through elaboration (further explanation), to the thesis statement and the introduction.
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Organization and flow...

- Each body paragraph and its topic sentence refer directly back to the thesis statement.



Body Paragraphs: FORM

Most paragraphs contain between five to ten sentences. The first line of a paragraph is usually indented (begin a few spaces to the right of the margin) to show that there is a new paragraph.

Begin with a single tab or five spaces (indent), before you begin the paragraph.

Body Paragraph Structure

I. Topic Sentence

A. Supporting Sentence

a) Elaborating or Explanatory Sentences

B. Supporting Sentence

a) Elaborating or Explanatory Sentences

C. Concluding sentence

- Every supporting sentence must have at least one elaborating sentence
- You can add several supporting sentence / elaboration groups to prove your topic sentence and thesis.

Topic Sentences

- It tells the reader what the paragraph will be about
 - It connects back to the thesis statement.
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Supporting Sentences

- These sentences are provide support or proof for the topic sentence and thus the thesis.
 - Quotes from credible, academic sources or literature
 - Personal anecdotes,
 - Statistics
 - Stories
 - Examples.

NOTE: These must be in complete sentences or woven into complete sentences.

Explanatory or Elaborating Sentences

- These are the sentences which explain or elaborate the connections between the supporting sentences and the overall topic.
 - Details are added, explained, and connected back to the thesis.
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Concluding sentence

- It is helpful to have a concluding expression in your last sentence to signal the end of your paragraph.
 - Some common expressions used in concluding sentences are listed below.
 - It is apparent ...
 - This is just one ...
 - Consequently,
 - This demonstrates that ...
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Example Body Paragraph

- **Topic Sentence**
- **Supporting Sentences**
- **Elaborating or Explanatory Sentences**
- **Concluding sentence**

Family vacations can bring people closer together. I remember a time when my sister and I were not getting along. When we first left on family vacation, she and I hardly spoke, but being forced together made us have to interact. Positive situations like this – forced or otherwise – can create closer bonds, important to forging good relationships.

According to Dr. John Smith PhD., “people who are open to counseling or group therapy have stronger, healthier relationships” (89).

Communication in a variety of forms can improve personal interaction.

This demonstrates one of the countless ways to open up vital avenues to quality communication.