

# COMPONENTS OF A PARAGRAPH

TOPIC SENTENCE - Blue

SUPPORTING DETAILS - Green

WRAP UP SENTENCE - Red

TRANSITION WORDS AND PHRASES - Pink

**PROMPT: What is something fun you did in the past week?**

## EXAMPLE #1 - DECENT

Something fun I did this past week is I visited Carowinds amusement park. I went on some roller coasters that had huge drops, and I went on some that spun me round and round. Also, I went on the ferris wheel which went up extremely high. For lunch, we had pizza at this little restaurant that is shaded. Overall, it was a great day.

## EXAMPLE #2 - BETTER

Earlier this week I did something extremely fun. I went to Carowinds with my mom. To begin with, I was so excited to go on my all-time favorite roller coaster, the Intimidator. As the coaster slowly climbed to the top of the first big drop, it seemed really scary. But then, as I went downward fast, I couldn't help but scream from being both excited and scared. After that, I went on my second favorite ride - the ferris wheel. We ended up getting stopped at the very top and as my feet dangled in the wind, I did feel a little nervous. However, the scare-factor made this ride even better as well. Looking out over the entire park was a pretty cool sight. Before we left, we ate at Harmony Hall and loaded up our trays with pizza slices and desserts. We sat and ate together for a while as we cooled down and talked about our day. Yesterday was the most fun day of my week.

## EXAMPLE #3 - BETTER

Yesterday, I visited Carowinds amusement park and had an awesome day with my family. First, we went on some roller coasters. I love the Intimidator, in particular, which is my favorite ride at the park. It takes you to an incredibly high peak and then the drop is terrifying, yet exciting at the same time. After the roller coasters, we headed to the water park where we spent time in the wave pool and sunning poolside. The water was warmer than I thought it would be which made the wave pool more enjoyable than I remember. Lastly, we ate at Harmony Hall which is a cafeteria style restaurant with a huge array of foods and drinks to choose from. It was freezing inside which I didn't mind due to the fact that it was 90 degrees outside. To sum it up, I enjoyed a great day with my family at Carowinds.

**PROMPT: Many people wouldn't be able to live without their dog. These pets provide something invaluable to people. Please explain why these animals are important.**

**EXAMPLE #1 - DECENT**

Dogs are very important to people. When a person is down, a dog can sit next to him or her and snuggle, and cheer the person up. Sometimes dogs do funny things, too, like the way they play hide-and-seek and run after toys and that can cheer up a person as well. Also, dogs make people feel safe. If it's raining and thundering outside, the dog can climb up on a person's bed and make them feel protected. Plus, when visitors come to the door, the dog barks and lets the owner know someone is there. Dogs really do a lot of great things for people.

**EXAMPLE #2 - BETTER**

Dogs are important to people and they provide something invaluable. When a person is down, it is often their furry friend that snuggles up next to the owner and gives reassurance. Sometimes the pup follows the owner around the house because the dog knows the person is not feeling the best. Along with providing comfort, a dog can often make a person feel safe. For example, at night, when a storm is raging outside, it's Fido that climbs up onto the bed, lying right next to the little boy in his home as thunder cracks in the sky. Also, when a visitor comes to the house, dogs immediately alert the owner that someone is there. Something that everyone absolutely loves about dogs, however, is that they are great to play with. Family members love to play tug-of-war with their dog. Fido holds onto that old sock with his sharp teeth, growling as he jerks his head and the person's hand back and forth, providing the usual entertainment for both himself and his owner! Getting the sprinkler out and running through it with a puppy can be lots of fun for kids. Enjoying the cool water and getting drenched is enticing and provides plenty of smiles. To conclude, dogs pull at the heartstrings and can make life easier and more enjoyable.

**Important parts of a paragraph:**

Topic sentence

Supporting details

Wrap up sentence

Transition words and phrases

Try not to repeat the same words / vary your language

Challenge yourself to use higher level vocabulary words