

# Review Paragraph Parts — Topic, Detail, Closing

**How to use:** Print first for the main practice. Then use the device to repeat activities and save progress.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1 Identify the three parts of a paragraph — topic sentence, detail sentences, and closing sentence
- 2 Arrange mixed-up sentence strips into a correctly ordered paragraph
- 3 Keep every sentence in a paragraph connected to the same main idea

## MINI LESSON

Every time you write more than one sentence about the same idea, you are writing a paragraph. Every good paragraph has three parts that work together like a team.

### The Topic Sentence

- Always comes first in the paragraph.
- Tells the reader the main idea — what the whole paragraph is about.
- Example: Dogs make wonderful pets.

### Detail Sentences

- Come in the middle, right after the topic sentence.
- Support the topic with facts, examples, or reasons.
- A strong paragraph has at least two detail sentences.
- They answer the question: How do you know?

### The Closing Sentence

- Always comes last in the paragraph.
- Wraps up the paragraph and reminds the reader of the main idea — often in a fresh way.
- Example: That is why dogs are such great companions.

### The One-Idea Rule

- Every sentence in a paragraph must connect to the same main idea.
- If a sentence wanders off-topic, it does not belong.

VOCABULARY

**Paragraph** A group of sentences that are all about the same main idea  
*e.g. A paragraph about butterflies has a topic sentence, detail sentences, and a closing sentence.*

**Topic sentence** The first sentence of a paragraph — it states the main idea  
*e.g. Butterflies are truly amazing insects.*

**Detail sentence** A sentence in the middle of a paragraph that supports the topic with a fact, example, or reason  
*e.g. They start life as tiny caterpillars hatched from eggs.*

**Closing sentence** The last sentence of a paragraph — it wraps up the main idea, often in a fresh way  
*e.g. That is why watching butterflies is one of nature's greatest wonders.*

**A Paragraph Has 3 Parts**

**1. Topic Sentence**

States the main idea - comes FIRST



**2. Detail Sentence 1**

Supports the topic with a fact



**3. Detail Sentence 2**

Adds another supporting fact



**4. Closing Sentence - wraps it up**

**Example Paragraph**

**1. TOPIC**

Dogs make wonderful pets.

**2. DETAIL**

They are loyal and love to play.

**3. DETAIL**

Dogs can be trained to help people.

**4. CLOSING**

That is why dogs are such great companions for families.

! Ask yourself: Can I name the three parts of a paragraph in order and explain what each one does?

**TRACING PRACTICE**

Trace each sentence, then copy it once on the lines below. Each sentence should start with a capital letter and end with the correct mark.

MODEL — READ IT

A paragraph has parts.

COPY 1

COPY 2

MODEL — READ IT

Topic comes first.

COPY 1

COPY 2

MODEL — READ IT

Details add more facts.

COPY 1

COPY 2

MODEL — READ IT

The closing wraps it up.

COPY 1

COPY 2

Stay on one main idea.

COPY 1

COPY 2

Tip: After tracing each word, cover it and try writing it from memory.

TYPE OR WRITE

Write 2 different sentences from the list above.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### EXERCISES — BUILD THE SENTENCES

Use the word chips for each line to build the correct sentence. Write it neatly on the lines — capital letter at the start, finger-space between words, period at the end.

1. **insects** **Butterflies** **truly** **.** **are** **amazing**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. **They** **.** **caterpillars** **hatched** **life** **from** **tiny** **eggs** **start** **as**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. **Inside** **they** **beautiful** **grow** **.** **their** **a** **slowly** **,** **wings** **chrysalis**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. butterflies of one wonders . is watching why greatest is nature's  
That

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5. make fun more Good friends every much day .

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6. you carefully listen have to a . share They when problem

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7. cheer up feel . True you you sad friends whenever

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8. is is That having life's friend why one of gifts a . greatest  
good

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9. is incredible Our system . place an solar

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10. all . eight orbit planets sun has the that It

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11. Each color size in . , its and surface , is planet unique  
features

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12. . stop exploring space scientists never is why That outer

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## EXERCISES — MULTIPLE CHOICE

### 1. What is the purpose of a topic sentence?

- To end the paragraph with a conclusion
- To tell the reader the main idea of the whole paragraph
- To add an interesting fact in the middle

### 2. Where does the topic sentence appear in a paragraph?

- At the very beginning
- At the very end
- Anywhere the writer chooses

### 3. What do detail sentences do in a paragraph?

- They introduce a brand new topic
- They end the paragraph with a summary
- They support the main idea with facts, examples, or reasons

### 4. Where do detail sentences appear in a paragraph?

- Always at the very beginning
- In the middle, between the topic and closing sentences
- Always at the very end

### 5. What does a closing sentence do?

- It wraps up the paragraph and reminds the reader of the main idea
- It introduces a new topic for the next paragraph
- It repeats the detail sentences word for word

### 6. Which sentence would make the best topic sentence for a paragraph about summer?

- I wore sunscreen at the beach.
- Summer is my favorite season of all.
- That is why summer is so much fun.

### 7. Which sentence works best as a detail sentence in a paragraph about healthy eating?

- Eating well is very important for our bodies.
- That is why we should always choose healthy foods.
- Fruits and vegetables give our bodies important vitamins.

### 8. Which sentence would make the best closing sentence for a paragraph about books?

- Libraries have thousands of books to choose from.
- That is why reading is one of the best hobbies anyone can have.
- Books can be found in stores and online.

### 9. How many main ideas should one paragraph have?

- As many interesting ideas as possible
- Two or three related ideas
- Exactly one main idea

### 10. What is the correct order of the parts in a paragraph?

- Detail, closing, topic
- Closing, topic, detail
- Topic, detail, closing

*"Flip the page upside down to see the answer key."*

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a 6. b 7. c 8. b 9. c 10. c

## ASSESSMENT

### PARENT / TEACHER CHECKLIST

- Points to the topic sentence in a given paragraph and states what main idea it introduces.
- Identifies each detail sentence and explains how it supports the topic.
- Identifies the closing sentence and says that it wraps up the paragraph.
- Arranges four mixed-up sentence strips into a correctly ordered paragraph without help.