



Writing an Essay Paragraph Structure

All essays follow a basic structure:

- Introduction
- Main body (at least 2 paragraphs)
- Conclusion

The **Opening paragraph** or **Introduction** aims to draw the reader's attention and introduce the topic through a general comment.

1) Read the introduction below and answer the questions.

Nowadays, education plays a major role in an individual's life. That is why more and more people claim that students should choose their school subjects themselves according to their professional ambitions. In my view, this could be harmful for many students in the long run.



- What is the essay about?
- What is the writer's opinion?



- What do you think? Do you agree with the writer's opinion? Why (not)?

The **Closing paragraph** or **Conclusion** aims to remind the readers what they have read about and summarize the writers' views/suggestions.

2) Read the conclusion below and answer the questions.

All in all, I firmly believe that school projects should be carried out in groups. In this way, students will be able to cooperate and feel they belong in a group. Also, they can help each other if they face a problem. Working alone may be faster, but working as a team is definitely more fun.

- What is the essay about?
- What is the writer's opinion?
- Which are the writer's main arguments?

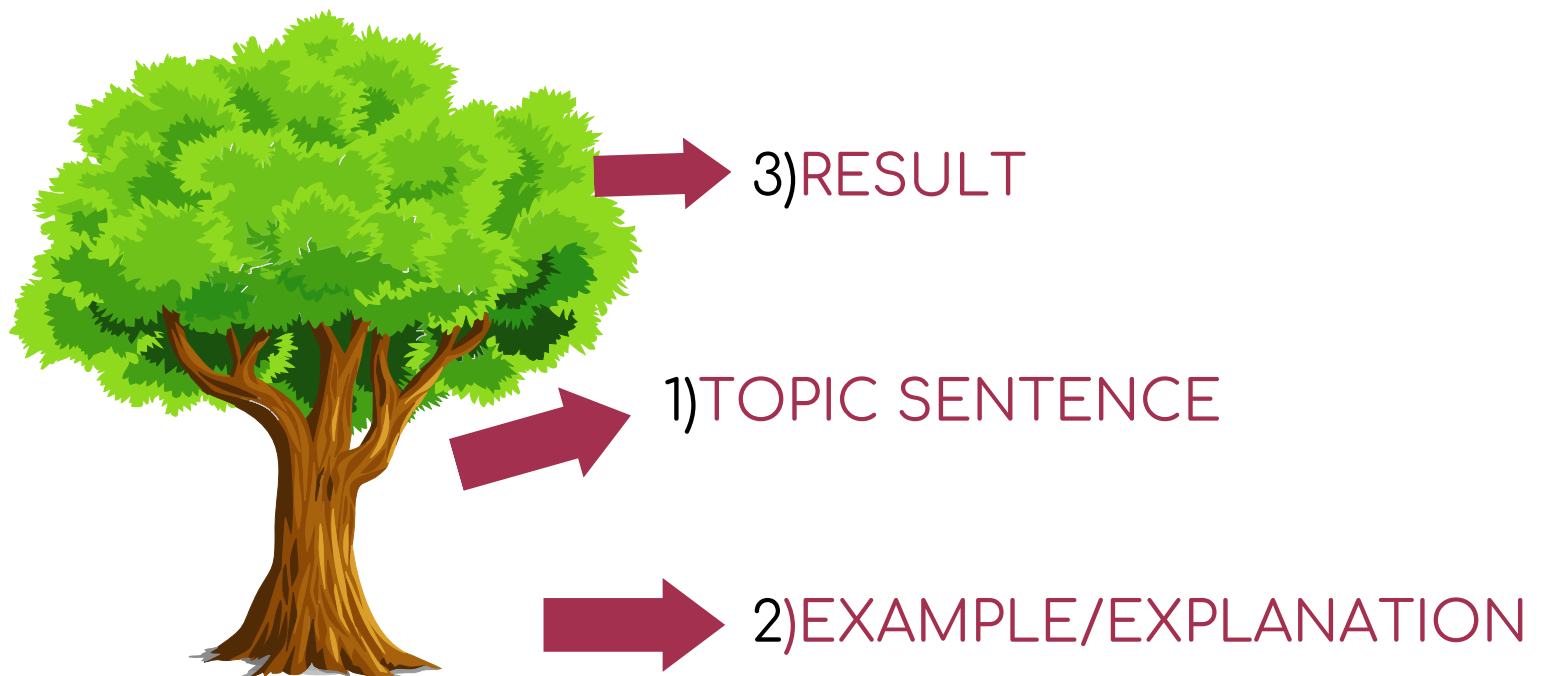


- Do you prefer to work alone or in a group? Why?



The two (or more) **main paragraphs** are the body of your essay. This is where you have to justify the reasons behind your arguments/suggestions. Let's see how you should organize them.

T.R.EE



To begin with, taking a gap year after high school can help students gain new experiences. What I mean is that students will be able to relax from the pressure of sitting their exams and they may travel around, or try out different jobs. As a result, they will mature and be ready to do their best when they start college.



3) Use your highlighter to colour the **topic sentence** green, the **example/explanation** yellow, and the **result** pink in the paragraph above.

4) Which words/phrases does the writer use to introduce:

the topic sentence



example/explanation



result



5) Place the linking words from the box into the correct column.

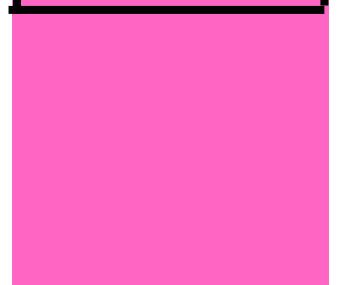
for example, first of all, in other words, in addition, moreover, as a result, for instance, what I mean is, in this way

Introducing/
adding
arguments

Explanation

Example

Result





6) Fill in the T.R.EE part that is missing using your own ideas.

First of all, if students choose their school subjects, they will probably select the ones they like. **For instance,**

In this way, their education will not be complete because they will lack fundamental knowledge.



What is more, allowing students to choose their school subjects will make them more responsible. **In other words,**

As a result,





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