

Writing Effective Paragraphs

Word → *Sentences* → PARAGRAPHS → *Essays*

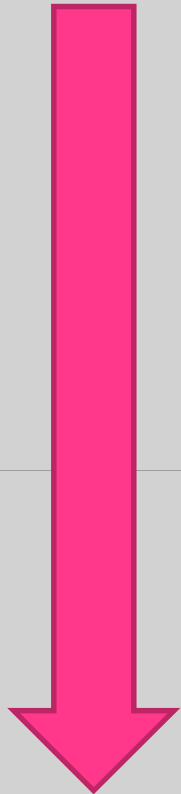
What is a Paragraph?

Wikipedia: “a self-contained unit of a discourse in [writing](#) dealing with a particular point or [idea](#)”

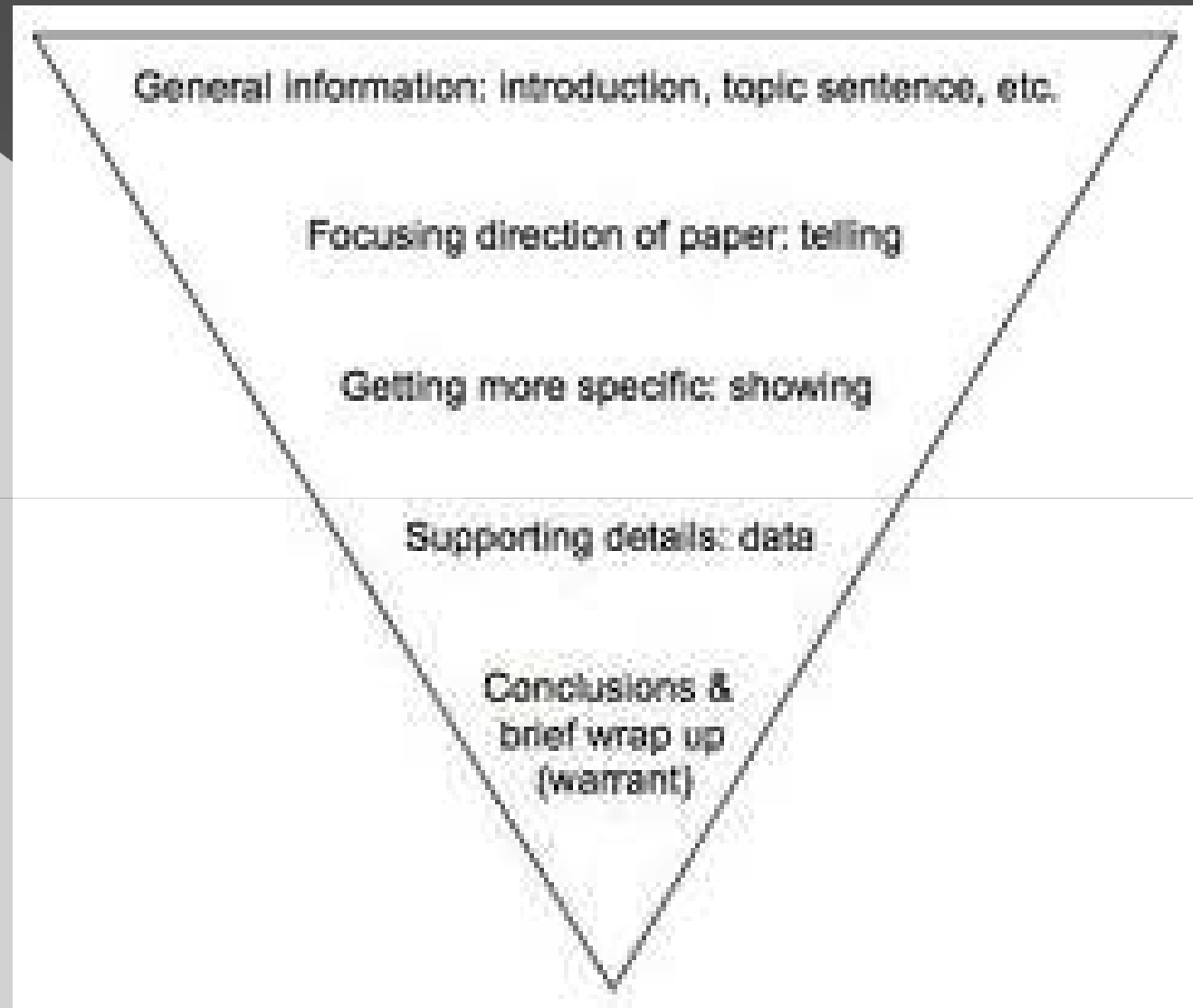
Even with unfamiliar language, we still KNOW what a paragraph is visually.

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**MOST
GENERAL**



**MOST
SPECIFIC
OR Detailed**

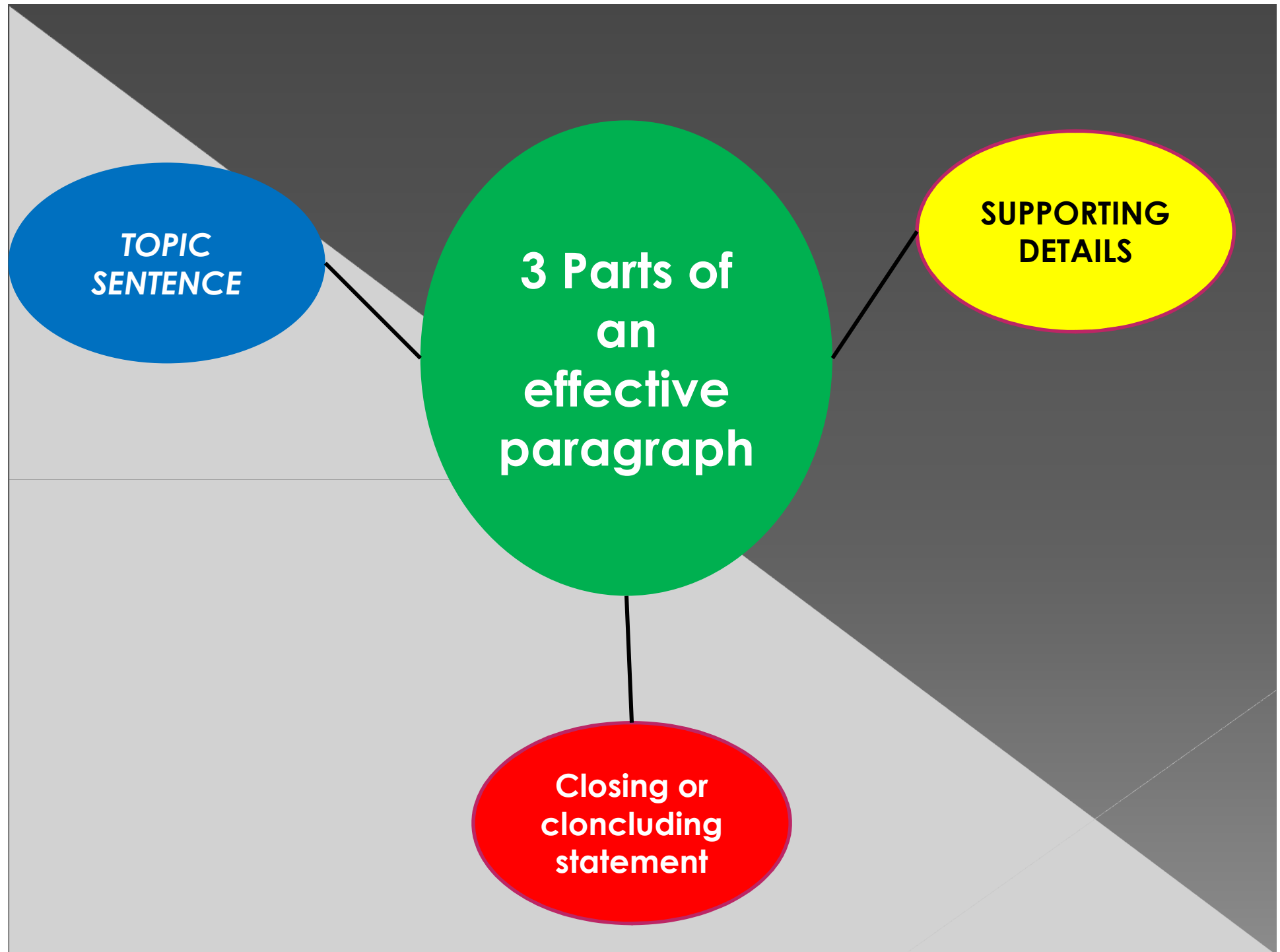


**TOPIC
SENTENCE**

**3 Parts of
an
effective
paragraph**

**SUPPORTING
DETAILS**

**Closing or
concluding
statement**



Can you construct a paragraph from *pieces*?



This is a paragraph that has been taken apart and arranged out of order. What is the most logical order for the paragraph?

- A. Also, on the other side of the town is Wheaton Hill, which is unusual because it is very steep.
- B. This tree stands two hundred feet tall and is probably about six hundred years old.
- C. My hometown is famous for several amazing natural features.
- D. These three landmarks are truly amazing and make my hometown a famous place.
- E. The third amazing feature is the Big Old Tree.
- F. First, it is noted for the Wheaton River, which is very wide and beautiful.

C, F, A, E, B, D

My hometown is famous for several amazing natural features. First, it is noted for the Wheaton River, which is very wide and beautiful. Also, on the other side of the town is Wheaton Hill, which is unusual because it is very steep. The third amazing feature is the Big Old Tree. This tree stands two hundred feet tall and is probably about six hundred years old. These three landmarks are truly amazing and make my hometown a famous place.



Adding Additional Details



My hometown is famous for several amazing natural features. First, it is noted for the Wheaton River, which is very wide and beautiful. Also, on the other side of the town is Wheaton Hill, which is unusual because it is very steep. The third amazing feature is the Big Old Tree. This tree stands two hundred feet tall and is probably about six hundred years old. These three landmarks are truly amazing and make my hometown a famous place.

NEW DETAILS TO BE ADDED:

In autumn the leaves of these trees fall and cover the riverbanks like golden snow.

There are no trees around this hill, so it stands clearly against the sky and can be seen from many miles away.

On either side of this river, which is 175 feet wide, are many willow trees which have long branches that can move gracefully in the wind.

Even though it is steep, climbing this hill is not dangerous, because there are some firm rocks along the sides that can be used as stairs.

My hometown is famous for several amazing natural features. First, it is noted for the Wheaton River, which is very wide and beautiful. **On either side of this river, which is 175 feet wide, are many willow trees which have long branches that can move gracefully in the wind. In autumn the leaves of these trees fall and cover the riverbanks like golden snow.** Also, on the other side of the town is Wheaton Hill, which is unusual because it is very steep. **Even though it is steep, climbing this hill is not dangerous, because there are some firm rocks along the sides that can be used as stairs. There are no trees around this hill, so it stands clearly against the sky and can be seen from many miles away.** The third amazing feature is the Big Old Tree. This tree stands two hundred feet tall and is probably about six hundred years old. These three landmarks are truly amazing and make my hometown a famous place.



DEFINITION

CLASSIFICATION

EVALUATION

DESCRIPTION

8 Types of Paragraphs

EXPLANATION

COMPARE
&
CONTRAST

CHOICE

SEQUENCE

ASSIGNMENT: Paragraphs

- WRITE 4 PARAGRAPHS
 - EACH OF YOUR PARAGRAPHS WILL BE AN EXAMPLE OF 1 OF THE 8 PARAGRAPH TYPES
 - EACH PARAGRAPH WILL HAVE A TOPIC SENTENCE, SUPPORTING STATEMENTS, AND A CLOSING SENTENCE.
 - TOPIC: EACH OF YOUR PARAGRAPHS WILL DISCUSS THE TOPIC OF **COLLEGE**

TYPED. 12 POINT FONT. 1" MARGINS. DUE NEXT CLASS SESSION. BRING TWO (2) COPIES TO CLASS.

