

The Writing Process

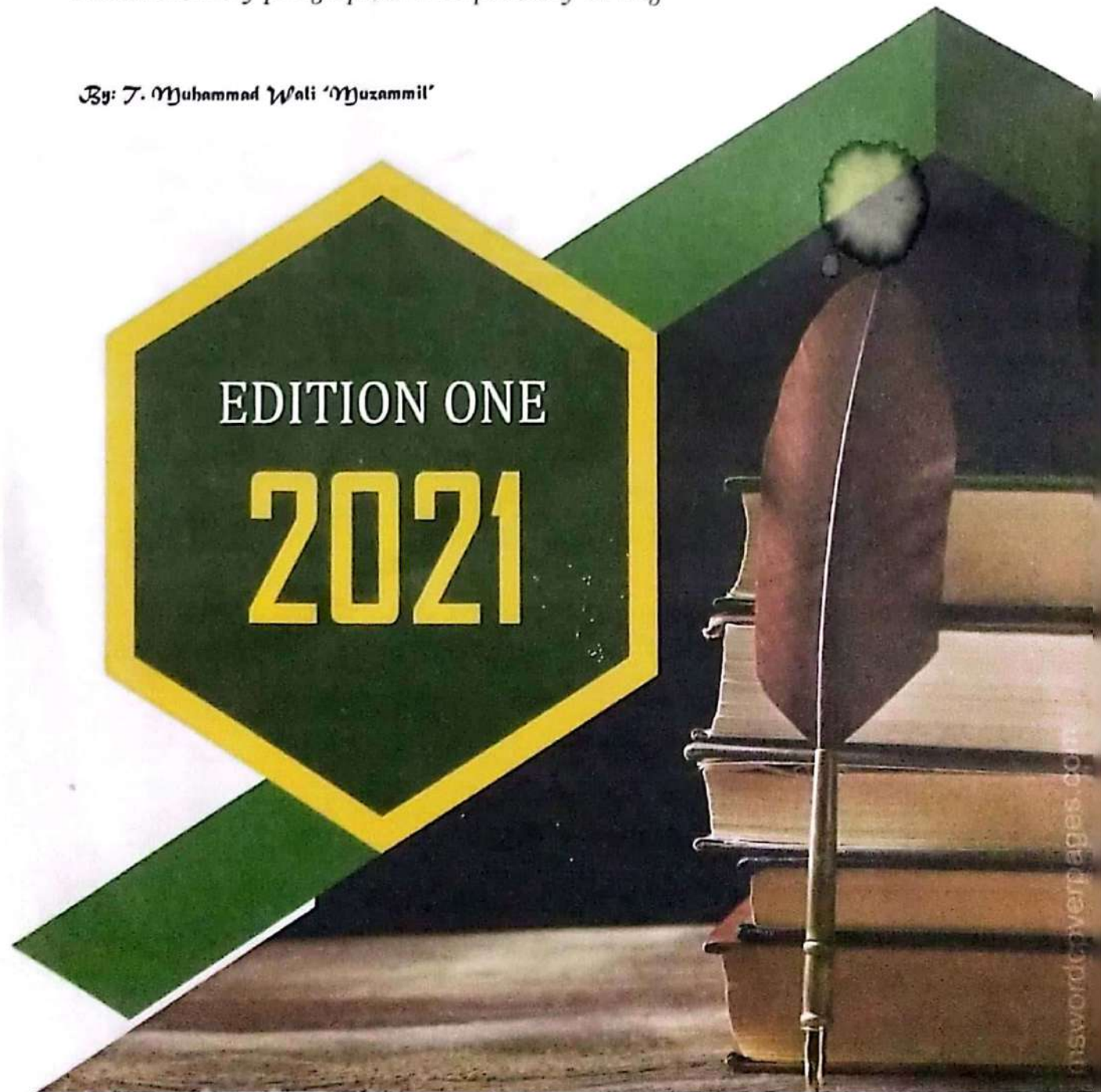
This chapter is about HOW TO WRITE?

It contains What is paragraph? the parts of paragraph, characteristics of paragraph, and the process of writing

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EDITION ONE

2021



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What is a Paragraph?

- A paragraph is a group of sentences about one idea.
- A paragraph has about 5 sentences.
- The first sentence of a paragraph is indented.

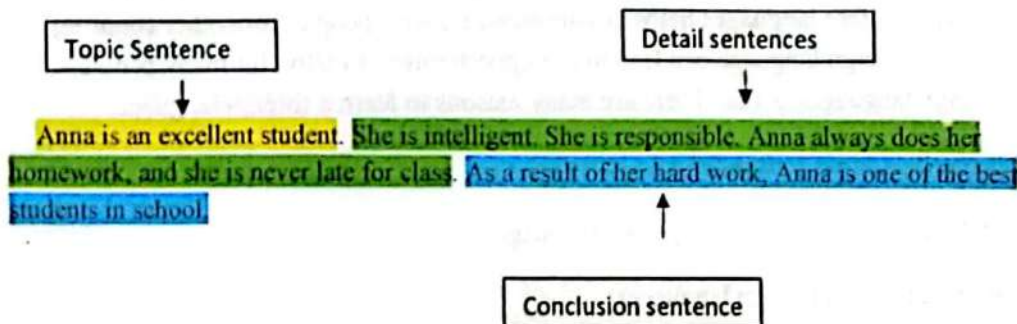
Example:

Anna is an excellent student. She is intelligent. She is responsible. Anna always does her homework, and she is never late for class. As a result of her hard work, Anna is one of the best students in school.

Parts of a paragraph

❖ A PARAGRAPH HAS THREE PARTS:

1. **Topic sentence** - tells the main idea
2. **Detail sentences** - explain and support the main idea
3. **Conclusion sentence** - reminds us of the main idea



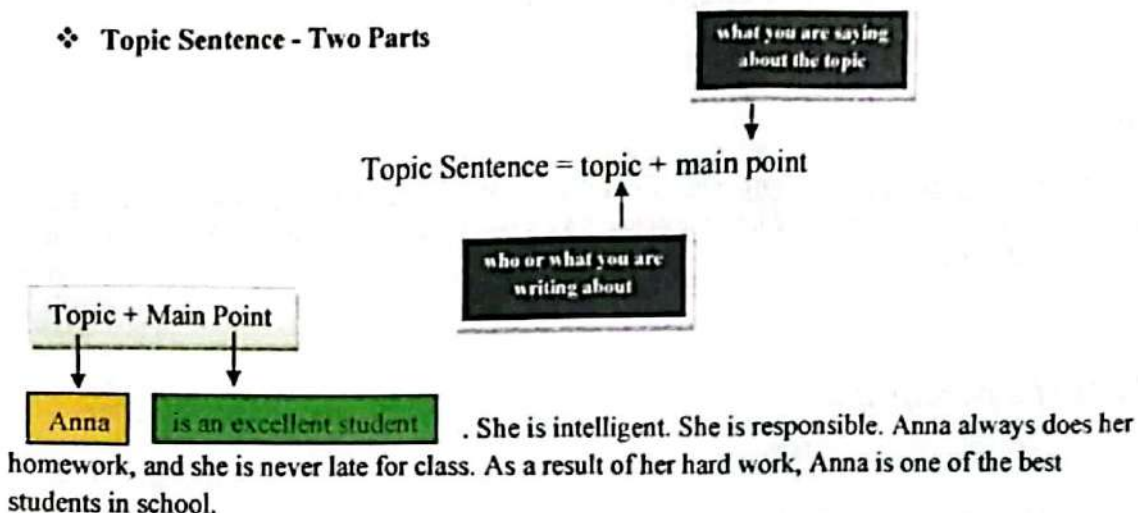
1. Topic Sentence - Main Idea

- The topic sentence is the first sentence of a paragraph
- The topic sentence tells the main idea.
- The main idea is what the paragraph is about. It is the most important idea in the paragraph.

Example:

Anna is an excellent student. She is intelligent. She is responsible. Anna always does her homework, and she is never late for class. As a result of her hard work, Anna is one of the best students in school.

❖ **Topic Sentence - Two Parts**



Topic Sentence - Practice

First, many schools require two or more years of foreign language study for graduation. Secondly, learning other languages helps us communicate with people from other countries. Also, knowing a foreign language can lead to job opportunities. Finally, for many people, studying foreign languages is fun! There are many reasons to learn a foreign language.

2) What is the best topic sentence?

- a. In the USA, many students study Spanish language.
- b. It is important to learn foreign languages.
- c. In college, people need to know foreign languages.

2. Detail Sentences

- Detail sentences explain and support the main idea.
- Sometimes detail sentences give examples.
- Sometimes detail sentences give reasons.
- Sometimes detail sentences give steps in a process.

Detail sentences or body

Anna is an excellent student. She is intelligent. She is responsible. Anna always does her homework, and she is never late for class. As a result of her hard work, Anna is one of the best students in school.

Detail Sentences - Practice

Instructions: Read the paragraph. Then choose the answer.

People should not drink soda. Soda is an unhealthy drink. It contains a lot of sugar. This is why soda is so delicious. Also, soda contains caffeine and other chemicals that are not nutritious. For these reasons, people should avoid drinking soda.

1) Which detail sentence does NOT belong in this paragraph?

- This is why soda is so delicious.
- It contains a lot of sugar.
- Also, soda contains caffeine and other chemicals that are not nutritious.

3. Conclusion Sentence

- The conclusion sentence reminds us of the topic sentence.
- It is the last sentence in a paragraph.
- It repeats the main idea in the topic sentence- but in different words.
- It does NOT give new details.

Example:

Anna is an excellent student. She is intelligent. She is responsible. Anna always does her homework, and she is never late for class. As a result of her hard work, Anna is one of the best students in school

Last sentence > repeats the main

Conclusion Sentence - Practice

Instructions: Read the paragraph. Then choose the answer.

Walking is the best exercise. First, walking is free, so people don't need to buy a gym membership to do it. Secondly, people can walk wherever they live. Third, studies show that walking outside not only burns calories but also helps a person feel happy and optimistic.

- 1) What is the best conclusion sentence?
- For these reasons, walking is an excellent form of exercise.
 - In conclusion, walking does not cost any money.
 - In summary, many people love to walk.

Characteristics of paragraphs

- ★ Content.
- ★ Coherence.
- ★ Structure.
- ★ Unity.
- ★ Form.
- ★ Support.

Paragraphs' main characteristics

- 1. Content:** Develops one idea, focuses on it, add explanations, details and examples to support it.
- 2. Structure:** one topic sentence, supporting sentences and a concluding sentence.
- 3. Form:** a paragraph has a five-space indentation, no lines or blank spaces in between the sentences, simple sentences, good spelling and grammar.
- 4. Coherence:** well organized details, sensible connection, use of connectors.
- 5. Unity:** focus on a single idea and maintain it, not bringing new ideas.
- 6. Support:** supporting ideas, evidences, examples and details.

Types of paragraphs

1. The descriptive paragraph.
2. The narrative paragraph.
3. The expository paragraph.
4. The persuasive paragraph.

1. Descriptive Paragraph

- This type of paragraph:
- Describes something.
- Shows what a thing or a person is like.
- The words that we usually use are often the five senses of touch, smell, sight, sound, and taste.
- Descriptive paragraphs can be artistic and only the significant details should be given in a descriptive paragraph.

Example:

The beach is the perfect place for me. The air is hot, but the water is cool and fresh. I enjoy swimming and surfing in the ocean. When I am tired, I come out and lie on the beach. The sand is soft and white. The beach is noisy with seagulls and children laughing, but it is a pleasant noise. I even like the beach smells. The air smells salty from the sea. I feel relaxed and peaceful. When I want to relax in summer, I go to the beach.

2. Narrative Paragraphs

- This type of paragraph:
- Always tells us a story.
- There is a sequence of action or there is a clear beginning, middle, and end to the paragraph.
- Most short stories and newspaper articles are examples of narrative paragraphs.

Example:

A Trip to the Country

One day a father and his rich family took his young son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose to show him how poor people can be. They spent a day and a night in the farm of a very poor family. When they got back from their trip the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" The boy replied, "Very good, Dad!" The father continued, "Did you see how poor people can be?" The boy just said, "Yeah!" The father asked again, "And what did you learn?" The boy answered, "I saw that we have a dog at home, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of the garden; they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lamps in the garden, they have the stars; our patio reaches to the front yard, they have a whole horizon. When the little boy was finishing, his father was speechless. The son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are!"

3. Expository Paragraphs

- This type of paragraph:
- Provides information, including facts, instructions, and definitions.
- It describes a process and guide the reader step by step through an idea.
- It requires research.
- Define terms, make comparisons, and show cause and effect.

Example:

Going to college can be expensive. First, college tuition and room and board can cost anywhere from \$2,000 to more than \$10,000 per semester. Other expenses make going to college even more expensive. For example, books typically cost between \$100 and \$500 each term. Second, materials are also very expensive. Paper, notebooks, writing utensils, and other supplies required often cost more at the college bookstore than at any local discount department store. For instance, a package of notepaper costing \$2 at a discount store might cost \$5 at a college bookstore. Finally, there are all kinds of special fees added onto the bill at registration time. A college student might have to pay a \$50 insurance fee, a \$20 activity fee, a \$15 fee to the student government association and anywhere from \$500 to \$100 for parking. There is another fee if a student decides to add or drop classes after registration. The fees required to attend college never seem to end.

4. Persuasive Paragraph

- *This type of paragraph:*
- Share opinions and convince others to agree or take action.
- Tries to get the reader to accept a particular point of view or understand the writer's position.
- It is very useful when building an argument and is often used in order of importance
- It requires research and collection of facts.

Example:

Think of the animals that lose their homes every day because of trees being chopped down. If we recycled more, we could save these beautiful forests.

The Process of Writing

- There are three steps of writing.
1. Pre – Writing (Before Writing)
 2. During Writing (While Writing)
 3. Post – Writing (After Writing)

1. Pre – Writing

- It is the process of coming up with ideas for your essay.
- This is not formal, polished writing.
- Followings are the pre – writing techniques.
 - ✓ Brainstorming
 - ✓ Jotting outline
 - ✓ clustering
 - ✓ ordering

✓ **Brainstorming**

- It is the thinking or information collecting step
- Just thinking what topic to be chosen
- What to be written about the chosen topic

✓ **Jotting outline**

- The step of writing information roughly which was collected during brainstorming
- It is also called free writing
- Whatever comes into mind about topic, are written down.

✓ **Clustering**

- A way of narrowing your thoughts by connecting your ideas
- Removing unnecessary ideas or irrelevant or unimportant ideas
- Selecting the best ideas.

✓ **Ordering**

- It is the step of arranging your ideas, to ensure which idea to be written first, second . . . and so on.
- A logical order where every next idea relate and support the last one

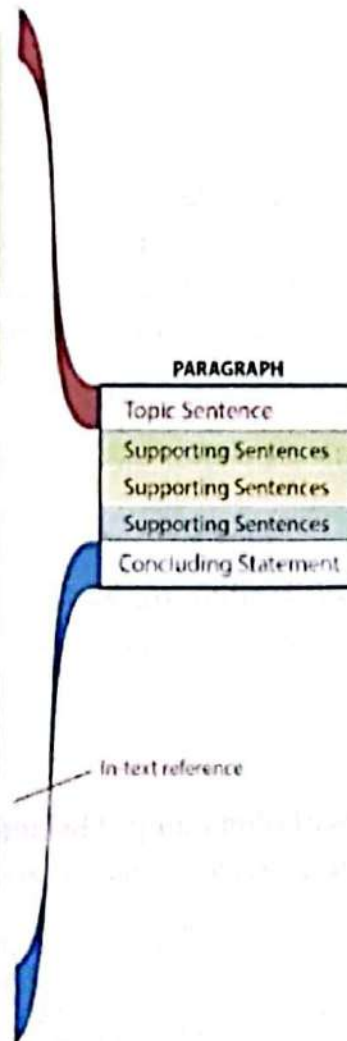
2. During Writing

- After creating the outline, it is time to start writing
- Focus on content only.
- Forget about language and mechanical aspects such as; grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Try to find way to communicate your ideas.
- First write the introduction with topic sentence.
 - ✓ prefer a strong opening to entice the reader to keep reading.
 - ✓ For example; pose a provocation question, give a testimonial or illustrative story, or present interesting facts

- Secondly, the body (Also supporting Sentences)
 - ✓ Giving explanation of the topic.
 - ✓ Paragraphs should present one idea or aspect.
 - ✓ Provide enough supporting sentences for the topic sentence, using examples, explanations, facts, opinions, and quotes.
- The ending (conclusion) should present:
 - ✓ summative remarks and repeat the key idea in other words.
 - ✓ Try to finish with strong statement.

Body paragraph - example

Children can also be influenced negatively as a result of media. Over exposure to television and gaming are two examples of possible negative impacts on children. Research suggests that children who are over exposed to television are more likely to display aggressive behaviours than those who are not. For example, a ten year longitudinal study of over 430 children revealed that eight year old boys "who were in the upper 20% of television exposure were significantly higher on measures of aggression than the study's other participants" (Eron, Huesmann, Lefkowitz and Walder 1972, cited in Sullivan 2013, p.46). The study also found that these children continued to show aggressive behaviour throughout their childhood and teens (Eron, Huesmann, Lefkowitz and Walder 1972, cited in Sullivan 2013). Furthermore, these children, who were studied into their twenties and thirties, continued to show high measures of aggression (Huesmann, Moise-Titus, Podolski & Eron 2003, cited in Sullivan 2013). This suggests that over exposure to television can have long term and negative impacts on the behaviour of children. These effects not only impact aggressive behaviour, but also children's attitudes and values (Clay, 2003). Additional research on the link between exposure to video gaming and aggression is suggesting similar findings, with a link between time spent on video games and higher scores on measures of aggression (Anderson and Bushman 2001 cited in Kirsh 2003). They suggest gaming influences aggressive behaviour, cognition, and physiological arousal. Given that 80 percent of the most popular video games on the market today are violent in nature (Diez 1998, cited in Kirsh 2003), the influence of gaming on levels of aggression are concerning. Media, then, can have a negative impact on levels of aggression on children who are over exposed to television and video games.



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Post – Writing

- It is the final step of writing
- Following stages are included
 1. The revising stages
 2. The editing stages
 3. The proof-reading stages
 4. The presenting or publishing stage

1. The Revising Stage

- It is the stage to go over what you wrote to prevent any mistakes.
- It means to evaluate your text's content and making sure you actually wrote what you intended.
- It is to check the information provided relevant to the paragraph or not.
- Also, the paragraphs and sentences are logically arranged.
- Any repeating ideas or not.

2. The editing stages

- Refers to judging your text for language and technicalities rather than content.
- Scanning the text for language accuracy.
- Proper word order rules, each containing a subject and a predicate.
- To check spelling.
- To check punctuation marks.
- To check for text mechanism: capitalization, numbering, italics, and abbreviations

3. The proof-Reading stages

- This is the time to brush away those invisible blemishes before publishing or printing out.

4. The presentation and publishing stage

- When the text is ready, it is time to present and publish your text.