

The Standard Body Paragraph

[Providing a series of examples or events]

Introduction – Explain the topic of the paragraph, and ensure that the rest of the paragraph illustrates this topic.

Body – Put all of your examples in chronological or thematic groups (B1, B2, etc.). If they aren't chronological, place your strongest example at the end. Use transitions to move smoothly from one group of ideas to another.

Quotation – Placing a quotation within the body can be an effective way to support your topic. Make sure you introduce the quote *beforehand*, and explain its relevance *after* it has been inserted.

Conclusion – It must summarize the main ideas or provide a sense of resolution.

_____ . **B1** _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

_____ . **B2** (e.g. In addition, ...)

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

_____ . **B3** (e.g. Finally, ...) _____

_____ . _____

_____ . As Jones points out, “We should not wait for others to do our own work” (Jones 57). In other words, Jones is arguing that... _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

(e.g. On the whole, ...) _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

The Complex Comparison Paragraph

In this paragraph, we compare two texts on two issues, usually similarities and differences. Sample prompts include:

- **Compare and contrast** the **personalities** of Mr. Smith in “Life is Happiness” and Ms. Lee in “Poems of our time”.
- **Compare and contrast** the **relationships** that the mother in “Life with my Mom” and Jenny Smith in “Motherhood and Life” have with their children.

Introduction - Explain the topic of the paragraph, and ensure that the rest of the paragraph illustrates this topic.

Body 1 – Discuss the anti-thesis or weaker part(s) of an issue. B1 usually needs just 1 or 2 examples. You should start with a *concession* transition.

Body 2 – Discuss the pro-thesis or strongest part of the argument. [Never go into your conclusion with a contradictory point!] You should have at least 3 or 4 fully explained examples. In the first sentence, you should use a *contrast* transition and explain why B2 is more significant or convincing than B1.

Conclusion – It must summarize the main ideas or provide a sense of resolution.

_____ . **B1** (e.g. To be sure, ...) _____

_____ . _____ . _____

_____ . _____

B2 (e.g. Nevertheless, ...) _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____ . _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____ . _____

_____ . _____

_____ . (e.g. In general, ...) _____

_____ . _____

_____ . _____

