

Perfect Paragraphs

Some Basic Concepts You Need to Master:

1. **Unity:** All ideas relate to the main idea.
2. **Coherence:** All ideas relate to each other.
3. Use **transitions** to create unity and coherence.
4. Choose the **best order**:
 - a. **Chronological** – in the order that it happened; good for **narratives**
 - b. **Relationships** – how the ideas relate to each other; good for **descriptive** or **expository** paragraphs
 - c. **Order of importance** – from good to best; good for **persuasive** paragraphs
5. **Types of Topic Sentences:** One-Part; Two-Part, Mixed
 - a. **One-Part:** My favorite hobby is working on my computers.
 - b. **Two-Part:** My favorite hobby is working on my computers because it is relaxing, challenging, and rewarding.
 - c. **Mixed:** My favorite hobby is working on my computers for a few powerful reasons.

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The Basic Perfect Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

(Major) Support 1:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident for Support 1:

(Major) Support 2:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident for Support 2:

(Major) Support 3:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident for Support 3:

Concluding/Clincher Sentence:

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My favorite vacation spot is Marco Island, Florida. I usually go there with my friends and family. One of the reasons why I like it there is that they have a lot of cool places to eat, such as Bimini's and Hard Rock Café, where they play cool music. Also, they have a swim up bar, where you swim in the pool and if you're thirsty, you can get a Coke or a Pepsi. Last, but not least, they have a really cool game room, where you can play ping pong and arcade games like Pac Man. They have some pretty cool stuff in Marco Island, Florida, and I hope to go back there soon.

If it had errors:

1. *No specific examples for Minor Support:*

One of the reasons why I like it there is that they have a lot of cool places to eat, such as restaurants.

2. *Incomplete specific example for Minor Support:*

Also, they have a swim up bar, where you swim in the pool and if you're thirsty, you can get a drink.

2. *Poorly/Incorrectly introduced example:*

One of the reasons why I like it there is that they have a lot of cool places to eat. Such as Bimini's and Hard Rock Café, where they play cool music.

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Common Errors Review

1. *No specific examples for Minor Support:*

Error: Another reason I love band is the friends I have made. For example, they are so fun and supportive.

Fix: Another reason I love band is the friends I have made. For example, I have become so close with Stephanie, who has made my life so much easier with her advice about how to deal with my mom.

2. *Incomplete specific example for Minor Support:*

Error: Another reason I love band is the friends I have made. For example, I have become so close with Stephanie.

Fix: Another reason I love band is the friends I have made. For example, I have become so close with Stephanie, who has made my life so much easier with her advice about how to deal with my mom.

3. *Poorly/Incorrectly introduced example:*

Error: Another reason I love band is the friends I have made. For example, Stephanie. She has made my life so much easier with her advice about how to deal with my mom.

Fix: Another reason I love band is the friends I have made. For example, I have become so close with Stephanie, who has made my life so much easier with her advice about how to deal with my mom.

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Applying the Basic Perfect Paragraph: World Studies

Topic Sentence:

(Major) Support 1 (Supporting Detail 1)

(Minor) Proper Name (PN) Example 1:

*Make sure your example is complete with explanation.

(Major) Support 2 (Supporting Detail 2)

(Minor) Proper Name (PN) Example 2:

*Make sure your example is complete with explanation.

Concluding/Clincher Sentence (optional):

Note the similarities and differences from our Basic Perfect Paragraph.

Perfect Paragraphs

Basic Perfect Paragraph World Studies Example:

Absolute monarchs ineffectively led Europe into bankruptcy and corruption. **Because** absolute monarchs ruled without checks and balances, rulers made quick decisions that often did not take the citizen's best interest into consideration. **For example**, Louis XIV led France into useless wars in order to bring fame and power to his crown. Absolute Monarchs **also** lived lavish lifestyles with a limitless budget while citizens were starving to death. **One instance of this** was Catherine the Great who built expensive palaces and used taxpayer dollars for her own extensive wardrobe.

Topic Sentence

Supporting Detail 1

Supporting Detail 2

Proper Name Example 1

Proper Name Example 2

Pay attention to transitions – they hold the paragraph together! They are CIRCLED in the essay.

Don't forget to complete your thoughts about each of your proper name examples!!!!

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Advanced Perfect Paragraph

Topic Sentence:

(Major) Support 1:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident 1 for Support 1:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident 2 for Support 1:

(Major) Support 2:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident 1 for Support 2:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident 2 for Support 2:

(Major) Support 3:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident 1 for Support 3:

(Minor) Specific Example/Detail/Incident 2 for Support 3:

Concluding/Clincher Sentence:

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Other Examples of Perfect Paragraphs

Coming soon

Advanced Perfect Paragraph Examples

Coming soon