

## Paragraph structure

Take your pre-writing activity and group together ideas that are connected. Ideas may already be grouped together, depending on what type of pre-writing activity you did. These groups of connected ideas will become your paragraphs.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Global Warming</b>
<b>Topic Sentence</b>	<b>Our modern lifestyle has created the phenomenon of global warming.</b>
<b>Supporting Sentence #1</b>	<b>The Carbon emissions from our cars and factories have made our planet warmer.</b>
<b>Supporting Sentence #2</b>	<b>In particular, the way we make food and discard garbage contributes more to the warming or greenhouse effect.</b>
<b>Closing Sentence</b>	<b>We need to commit to a change in lifestyle by following environment-friendly practices.</b>

**Topic sentence:** Introduces or explains what the paragraph will be about.

**Supporting sentences:** Information that contributes to the larger idea stated in your topic sentence. The illustration above gives two examples of supporting sentences; you will generally have more than two sentences that connect together and fit under your topic sentence.

**Closing sentence/transition sentence:** Your final sentence in a paragraph will wrap up the ideas in this paragraph and transition into your next paragraph's topic sentence. Think of transition sentences as a bridge that goes from one place to another. If the bridge is too short or not properly constructed, it can be a jarring experience.

**Transitional phrases:**

accordingly	in other words
as a result	indeed
besides	instead
consequently	meanwhile
for example	moreover
for instance	nevertheless
furthermore	otherwise
however	that is
in fact	therefore