



Centre Universitaire Abdelhafid Boussouf Cellule E-learning



Anglais–Niveau 3

Lesson 9 How to Write a Good Paragraph?

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<i>Sciences Economique</i>	<i>-Sciences Economique. -Sciences Commerciales. -Sciences de la Gestion.</i>	<i>Licence3</i>	<i>Toutes les spécialités.</i>

Lessons' Objectives:

- You have learned in the previous lessons what a paragraph is, what its structure is, as well as some of its commonest types. In the present lesson you are going to learn the qualities of a good paragraph and how to make your paragraph both coherent and adequate.

How to Write a Good Paragraph?

1. Qualities of a Good Paragraph:

For a paragraph to be good, there are some qualities/characteristics that it should contain. Some say that there are just two qualitiesⁱ, while others agree on four characteristics that make writing of a paragraph more effectiveⁱⁱ. They are as follows:

1. **Topic Sentence:** means starting with or having a strong topic sentence. A strong topic sentence should contain a topic and a controlling idea *as we have seen in the previous lesson*.
2. **Unity:** this means having one single idea in a paragraph. If you are describing a book then describing its publishing company in one paragraph, you are then writing a bad paragraph that lacks unity.
3. **Coherence:** means that the reader feels some smoothness in the flow of ideas within a paragraph. Thus, he/she can understand the paragraph very easily. (check the difference between coherence and cohesion in a dictionary)
4. **Adequacy or adequate development:** means that the sentences of the paragraph are adequately developed. If you answer many questions about the topic sentence, then your paragraph is adequate.

2. Illustration:

- Consider the following table:

Quality	Example
<p>Topic sentence</p>	<p>Students should develop their hand writing to avoid getting bad marks in the exams.</p> <p>The topic is hand writing</p> <p>The controlling idea is Avoiding bad marks</p>
<p>Unity</p>	<p>Students should develop their hand writing to avoid getting bad marks in the exams. It is not enough to know the answer in the exam, your writing should be clear and understandable too. Many students have a problem when writing on papers. Some are nervous by nature, while others never care about how their writing looks like. Such carelessness is what makes some students get bad marks. When the student’s writing is too small or the letters are too big, the teacher could not decipher them. As a result, the teacher is obliged to cancel such answers then the student got bad marks.</p> <p>Note: each sentence is speaking about hand writing.</p>
<p>Coherence</p>	<p>Students should develop their hand writing to avoid getting bad marks in the exams. It is not enough to know the answer in the exam, your writing should be clear and understandable too. Many students have a problem when writing on papers. Some are nervous by nature, while others never care about how their writing looks like. Such carelessness is what</p>

makes students get **bad marks**. When the student **writing** is too small or the letters are mixed up, the teacher could not decipher them. **As a result**, the teacher is obliged to cancel such answers, **then** the student got **bad marks**.

Note: there is a flow of ideas in the paragraph. (using **pronouns**, **repetition** and **transitional words** to achieve coherenceⁱⁱⁱ)

Adequacy

Students should develop their hand writing to avoid getting bad marks in the exams. It is not enough to know the answer in the exam, your writing should be clear and understandable too. Many students have a problem when writing on papers. Some are nervous by nature, while others never care about how their writing looks like. Such carelessness is what makes students get bad marks. When the student writing is too small or the letters are too big, the teacher could not decipher them. As a result, the teacher is obliged to cancel such answers then the student got bad marks.

Note: All the sentences in the paragraph are adequate to the topic sentence.

 **Train yourself. Write a paragraph about one of the two topics “Online Shopping, Online Working”.**

ⁱSee, Qualities of a Good Paragraph. Retrieved from www.moodle.ufsc.br

ⁱⁱSee, Paragraph Development on www.faculty.washington.edu

ⁱⁱⁱ See, Writing Effective Paragraphs. Retrieved from www.athabascau.ca