

Writing 122

Review: Paragraphing

At the beginning of the year, we established that *as a bare minimum*, a paragraph should have five sentences: a topic sentence, three detail sentences, and a concluding or transitional sentence. That is the basic structure that I teach to lower level sophomores.

The scoring rubric indicates that an excellent paragraph will **FULLY DEVELOP A SINGLE POINT**. Consider these examples:

Sophomore English:

Women form their body image much earlier than men do. When a little girl begins to attend school, she will compare herself to other girls. Television and the media also influence what people perceive as a “good” sized and shaped body. In our culture, we worship celebrities; young women see their figures as the standard by which they should measure themselves. Unfortunately, many of them cannot measure up to these images.

Don't just TELL ME. SHOW me.

Writing 122:

Women form their body image much earlier than men do. When a little girl begins to attend school, she will compare herself to other girls. She will see if she is shorter, taller, fatter or thinner than most of the other girls. Five years of her mother telling her she is perfect will be instantly erased. Television and the media also influence what people perceive as a “good” sized and shaped body. The women we see in the media are mostly white, tall, thin, and beautiful, with very little variation. In our culture, we worship celebrities; young women see the figures of television and movie stars as the standard by which they should measure themselves. Magazines contribute to this effect as well, by featuring articles outlining how to “fix” one’s appearance by using cosmetics, skin and hair care products, and wearing the right clothes. The advertising focuses on convincing women that they are fat, ugly, and uncool. Supermodels average 5’ 10’ and 118 pounds; the average American woman is 5’ 4” and weighs 147 pounds. It’s easy to see why women hate their own bodies. Many of them cannot measure up to the images they have to been exposed to for years.

TELL me.

- Besides just medical care, Planned Parenthood offers educational programs for all kinds of people. Their website shows eight different programs for children, and five for adults. They have programs for parents and children to attend together. They also have speakers who travel to different communities to educate people. The Planned Parenthood website even has body image programs and information about promoting a positive body image.

SHOW me.

- Besides just medical care, Planned Parenthood offers educational programs for all kinds of people. Their website shows eight different programs for children, and five for adults. The links for kids and teens include games, quizzes, and relationship blogs and discussions, with an emphasis on defining what a healthy relationship looks like. They have programs for parents and children to attend together, including a program that helps families support a member who is struggling with a gender issue. They also sponsor speakers who travel to different communities to educate people about health issues, such as diabetes and quitting smoking. The Planned Parenthood website even has body image programs and information about promoting a positive body image for all genders. They provide an App for tracking one's period. Need a sports physical? Planned Parenthood can help you get it for free. This non-profit organization provides health services to all people, not just pregnant teenagers.