

*Writing Review...***PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE**

**Topic sentence:** The first sentence of the paragraph that introduces the main idea.

**Supporting sentences:** They give details to develop and support the main idea of the paragraph.  
This is where your concrete details and commentary go.

**Concluding sentence:** The last sentence of the paragraph that ties all of the ideas together.

**CHUNKS**

**Concrete detail:** Evidence from the text, usually in the form of a quote.

- ❖ Transition into the concrete detail (no “floating” quotes).

**Commentary:** Your thoughts or analysis about the evidence provided in the concrete detail.

- ❖ A writer uses commentary to make connections between the facts of the text and the claim he or she is making.

- Remember, you don't want any “floating” quotes. Transition into your quotes.
- For each concrete detail, provide at least two to three sentences of commentary that appropriately explain the meaning and significance of the concrete detail and how it relates to what you are trying to prove.
- DON'T use phrases like “This quote shows...” in your commentary. Instead, just start with whatever you would write after that phrase. Consider using words like: reveals, demonstrates, influences, impacts.
- DON'T use the word “I” in your writing.

**CITATIONS**

**How to make a citation:** “Quote” (page#).

Example:

Physically, Lennie is enormous and is described as having animal-like qualities. He has a very distinct walk, “dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws” (2).

↑  
Punctuation mark goes here!