

## Academic Writing Student Worksheet: How to Structure a Paragraph

**Links to:** Approaching the Question, Planning your Work, Using Evidence to Develop your Argument

### Introduction

This worksheet is designed to help you to write paragraphs which contain all of the necessary parts to construct a well-evidenced and coherent argument. Use the *How to Structure a Paragraph Information Sheet* to find examples of each step outlined below.

### Activity

When you have created the plan for your essay, you will need to start developing your ideas.

1. Write your assignment title in the box below

2. Now write some notes outlining one key idea followed by supporting evidence from your research

3. Use the information from the box above to write a topic sentence which outlines your main point

4. Now add supporting evidence from your research to develop your point

5. Now develop or explain your idea, concluding with a sentence which sums up the main point of your paragraph, referring back to the question.

6. Now put all of your points together to form a cohesive paragraph. Remember to begin with a linking sentence to connect to the previous paragraph as this will create cohesion in your structure. Also use some of the signposting words provided at the bottom of this worksheet.

Visit the LearnHigher website for further examples of signposting words:  
<http://www.learnhigher.ac.uk/>

### **Conclusion**

Remember to ensure that you have included all of the necessary parts of the paragraph using the checklist below.

#### **Checklist:**

- **Linking sentence**
- **Topic sentence**
- **Evidence with reference**
- **Development sentences**
- **Concluding sentence**
- **Signposting**
- **Reference to the question**