



Palm Beach Atlantic University
Center for Writing Excellence

Supporting Sentences

Supporting Sentences come after the topic sentence to provide details and support for the main idea.

1. All must relate to the topic of the paragraph.
2. Use transitions to clarify the relationship between the supporting sentences.
3. Supporting sentences need to be arranged in a logical order.
 - a. Importance
 - b. Time
 - c. Space
4. There are two kinds:
 - a. Major details
 - i. *Relate directly to topic*
 - ii. *2-4 per paragraph*
 - iii. *General in nature*
 - b. Minor details
 - i. *Relate indirectly to topic by relating directly to a Major Detail*
 - ii. *1-3 per major detail*
 - iii. *Specific*