**Opinion Paragraph**

**Paragraph Assignment**

It’s important to be able to write a paragraph. In your REAL life you will need to do this – perhaps you have to write something for your job or you need to send an email to someone etc. You will NEED this skill to be successful in school and in life. So, we are going to practice. It is also a necessary skill to master in order to pass the Literacy Test that you must take (and pass to graduate!) next year.

Learning Goal: To write a well developed and supported paragraph using appropriate organization, spelling and grammar.

🡪Choose one of the following topics/questions and write a well-developed paragraph addressing the topic. Complete the rough draft, edit it with the teacher or another adult to ensure that your spelling/grammar is correct, then complete the good copy and submit.

**Questions/Topic**

1. *Is there anyone in your life that you would sacrifice your safety or your life to protect? Explain who and why giving at least 3 reasons.   
     
   OR*
2. *Who is your best friend (could be a classmate or a friend outside of school, sibling, parent etc) and what makes them such a good friend. Give at least 3 reasons for why they are a good friend.*

Requirements for your paragraph:

1. You must have a **topic sentence** that answers the question.
2. You must have **three** supporting sentences that further explain your answer and provide examples.
3. You must have a **concluding** sentence that sums up he answer to the question and closes the paragraph.

**See exemplar below.**

***Q****: What are three reasons why students should not be late?* It is important for students to always attend class on time. If they miss the first 10 or so minutes of class they are likely missing valuable instructions on how to complete the days assignments. Also, during the few minutes before the bell rings and when class is just beginning is a good time to get to know classmates and the teacher so that you can build mutual respect and trust. If you are constantly late, you will miss out on this time to bond with classmates and the teacher. Finally, it’s important to be on time for class because it’s important to show respect to your teacher. By attending on time, you are showing your teacher that you are eager to learn and care about achieving a passing grade. Therefore, it’s very important to be to class every day on time.

**Paragraph Outline/Rough Draft**

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
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First Reason/Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
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Second Reason/Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Third Reason/Explanation:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Concluding Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Self Edit Checklist/ Success Criteria**

✔My topic sentence answers the question in the form of a STATEMENT

✔I’ve listed 3 reasons AND explained them

✔My concluding sentence is a re-wording of the topic sentence

✔I’ve edited for spelling and grammar

✔I’ve typed it in good copy

Rubric for Paragraph

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Level 1** | **Level 2** | **Level 3** | **Level 4** |
| **K/U – Topic and Concluding Sentences**    **/10** | - topic sentence is unclear, improperly placed, not re-worded in concluding sentence | - topic sentence is unclear and/or improperly placed, and re-worded in concluding sentence | - Good topic sentence, properly placed, re-worded in concluding sentence | - Strong topic sentence, properly placed and re-worded in concluding sentence |
| **T/I – supporting reasons and explanation**  **/10** | - supporting details provided, but not clearly connected to topic, little explanation | - three supporting details, somewhat connected to topic, somewhat explained | - three supporting details connected to topic, mostly explained | - three supporting details clearly connected to topic, thoroughly explained |
| **Comm –organization**  **/10** | - logically organized with 3 errors | - logically organized with 2 errors | - logically organized with 1 error | - logically organized with no errors |
| **App – Spelling and Grammar**  **/10** | - 4-5 spelling or grammar errors | -2-3 spelling or grammar errors | - 1 spelling or grammar error | - no spelling or grammar errors |

**Feedback**