

Module 6: Writing a Research Paper

Topic 3 Content: The Body of a Research Paper

Introduction

The Body of a Research Paper

- The Topic Sentence
- Evidence and Citation
- The Warrant

Introduction

Before you refer back to your formal outline in order to draft the body paragraphs of your research paper, take a moment to learn some tips about writing topic sentences, including evidence and citations, and developing warrants for your support. In this interactivity, click each of the tabs to explore elements of the body paragraphs of a research paper.



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The Topic Sentence

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The topic sentence needs to clearly state what you will discuss in the paragraph. Every sentence in the paragraph should be closely related to the topic sentence. This helps create unity within the paragraph and ensures you stay on-topic. As you move from one paragraph to the next, each paragraph should be closely related to the thesis, or overall topic of your paper. This creates unity within the paper as a whole.

Evidence and Citation

The Warrant



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Evidence and Citation

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The Topic Sentence	<h4>Evidence and Citation</h4> <p>Each body paragraph should provide support for your topic sentence in the form of evidence and corresponding citations that you gathered during research. Your evidence can take the form of quotations, facts, statistics, or specific examples that illustrate your point. Whether you are summarizing, paraphrasing, or directly quoting information, make sure you accurately cite your sources using MLA style.</p> 
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The Warrant

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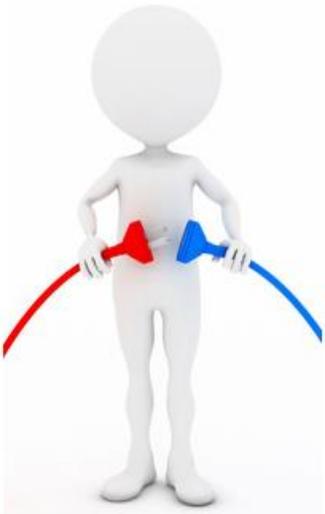
The Topic Sentence

Evidence and Citation

The Warrant

The Warrant

After you have supported your argument with researched evidence, make sure to connect your points to the topic sentence. Sometimes it may feel obvious to you that your evidence supports your argument, but remember that your readers may not be as knowledgeable as you are about the topic that you researched. Thus, you need to explain and clarify the connection to your reader. This explanatory connection is referred to as the warrant.



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