

English 092 Unit 1.1

Learning Goals:

To gain and demonstrate an understanding of

- the different purposes for writing (audience)
- basic paragraph structure
- different methods of paragraph development

Writing Assignments:

- process paragraph
- classification paragraph

Getting Started

To begin our writing assignments, we will be using selected readings and exercises from *Essay Essentials with Readings 4th Edition*. These readings and exercises will prepare you for your first writing assignment.

Step 1.

Read Chapter 1: Your Audience and You (pages 9 to 16). This chapter introduces the idea that each piece of writing should have a clear audience and purpose in mind. Complete Exercise 1.1. Check your answers on page 512 in the text.

Step 2.

Read Chapter 3: Selecting a Subject (pages 39 to 41). Consider that every topic you select to write about should be **Significant, Single, Specific, and Supportable**. Complete exercises 3.1 to 3.4 and check your answers.

Step 3.

Read Chapter 4: Managing the Points (pages 44 to 59). This chapter provides strategies for developing and organizing the content of your writing.

Step 4.

Read Chapter 7: Understanding Paragraph Form and Function (pages 81 to 97) Keep in mind that a paragraph is a short piece of writing about a single topic. Don't try to cover too much territory in a single paragraph.

Step 5.

Read Chapter 7: Crafting the Topic Sentence (pages 85-86)

Complete Exercise 7.3 and check your answers on page 516.

A clear topic sentence is the key to an effective paragraph. Look carefully at the examples in this chapter and when you go to write your first paragraph, check to see that the topic you are introducing is **single, significant, specific, and supportable**.

Once you have completed the readings and exercises, you should be ready to begin your first paragraph writing assignment. Please contact me if you have any questions about the readings and/or the assignments.

Step 7.

Read the handout on **Methods of Developing Paragraphs and Essays** and complete the questions after each paragraph. Check your answers with the attached key.

Step 8.

1. **Process Paragraph**: follow the instructions on the handout. When this is completed, begin on the classification paragraph.
2. **Classification Paragraph**: follow the instructions on the handout.

For more on paragraph (and essay) writing see the **Thinking and Writing website**. <http://rbigausk.disted.camosun.bc.ca/index.htm>