

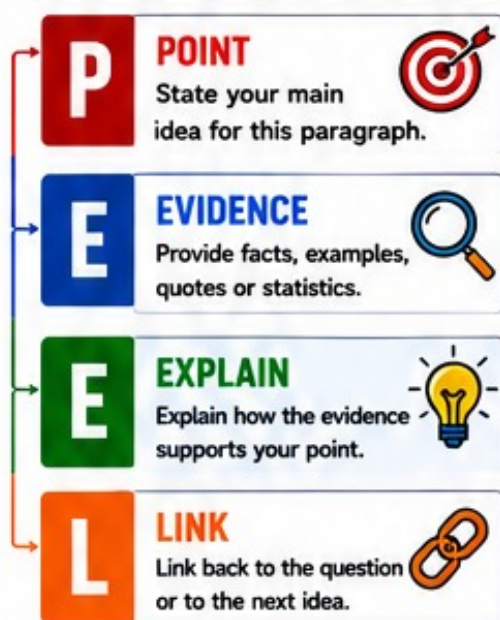
WHAT IS A BODY PARAGRAPH?

Body paragraphs develop your main ideas in detail. Each one focuses on a **single point** and explains it clearly with evidence, examples and analysis.

PURPOSE

- ✓ Support your thesis.
- ✓ Provide evidence and examples.
- ✓ Explain how the evidence supports your point.
- ✓ Analyse and evaluate.
- ✓ Link to the next idea.

THE PEEL STRUCTURE (RECAP)



THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

- 1 QUESTION
- 2 HYPOTHESIS
- 3 EXPERIMENT
- 4 ANALYSE
- 5 CONCLUDE

Your body paragraphs are where you prove your point!

EXAMPLE BODY PARAGRAPH (ANNOTATED)

One major positive effect of technology on young people is improved access to information. For example, online platforms such as Khan Academy, BBC Bitesize and Coursera offer free high-quality resources on a huge range of subjects. This means that students can learn at their own pace, revisit difficult topics and explore new interests beyond the classroom. As a result, learners become more independent, confident and motivated.

Overall, easy access to information gives young people the tools they need to achieve their potential.

POINT
(main idea)

EVIDENCE
(example)

EXPLAIN
(how/why)

LINK
(Connect to question or next idea)

USEFUL SENTENCE STARTERS

POINT

- One important reason why ...
- A key factor to consider is ...
- An advantage / disadvantage is ...

EVIDENCE

- For example, ...
- According to ...
- Research shows that ...
- A recent study found ...

EXPLAIN

- This shows that ...
- This means that ...
- As a result, ...
- This leads to ...

LINK

- Therefore, ...
- This highlights ...
- This connects to ...
- This ties in with ...

THE TOPIC SENTENCE – YOUR PARAGRAPH'S FOCUS

The first sentence should tell the reader what the paragraph is about.

GOOD TOPIC SENTENCES

- "Technology improves communication."
- "Social media has both positive and negative effects."
- "Online learning offers flexibility and convenience."

NOT SO GOOD

- ✗ "Technology is good and bad."
- ✗ "I am going to talk about social media."
- ✗ "There are many reasons why ..."

HOW TO DEVELOP YOUR IDEAS

- 1 Choose a clear point.**
Make sure it relates to your thesis.
- 2 Provide strong evidence.**
Use facts, examples, quotes or statistics.
- 3 Explain in detail.**
Show how the evidence supports your point.
Analyse – go beyond just saying "it is good".
- 4 Link to the next idea.**
Use a linking sentence to move the reader forward smoothly.

★ **TIP:** One idea per paragraph.
Don't try to fit everything in!

BODY PARAGRAPH CHECKLIST

- ✓ I have a clear topic sentence.
- ✓ I have used evidence, facts or examples.
- ✓ I have explained how the evidence supports my point.
- ✓ I have analysed or developed my idea.
- ✓ I have linked to the question or next paragraph.
- ✓ My ideas are logical and well organised.
- ✓ My writing is formal and academic.
- ✓ My paragraph is 5–8 sentences long.

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

- ✗ No clear topic sentence.
- ✗ Giving evidence but not explaining it.
- ✗ Too much evidence, not enough explanation.
- ✗ Repeating the same idea.
- ✗ No linking sentence.
- ✗ Writing in bullet points instead of sentences.



MINI MODEL – ANOTHER EXAMPLE

P A disadvantage of social media is its impact on mental health. For instance, a study by the Royal Society for Public Health (2021) found that excessive use of social media is linked to higher levels of anxiety and lower self-esteem among teenagers. This occurs because constant comparison with others can lead to feelings of inadequacy and pressure to fit in. Therefore, it is important for young people to use social media mindfully and take regular breaks.

CHALLENGE: UPGRADE THIS PARAGRAPH!

Technology is useful. It helps students learn. There are many websites. It is good for education and makes learning easier.

P
E
E
L

★ Rewrite it using the PEEL structure and make it stronger!



STRONG BODY PARAGRAPHS = STRONG ESSAYS.

One idea. Clear evidence. Detailed explanation. Logical link.

