

DIRECTIONS: After reading the appropriate section in the textbook, write a properly constructed paragraph, for *each* of the paragraph styles below. If you are unsure of what section to read, check your course outline. Use one of the topics presented, or negotiate a different one with your teacher. Attach the checklist on the following pages to each paragraph you hand in for your teacher to check how you are doing and give you some feedback.

1. DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH TOPICS

- Your best friend
- The first snowfall of the year
- Your favourite vacation destination
- The first flowers of spring

2. NARRATIVE PARAGRAPH TOPICS

- A memorable journey to school
- The last concert you saw
- The best day of your last summer vacation
- The last movie you saw

3. COMPARING/CONTRASTING PARAGRAPH TOPICS

- Your best school subject and your worst school subject
- Your favourite music and your least favourite music
- Alternate education versus the regular program

4. OPINION/PERSUASIVE PARAGRAPH TOPICS

- Students should/shouldn't have a lower minimum wage than others.
- Graduated licensing for new drivers is/is not a good idea

5. CAUSE-AND-EFFECT PARAGRAPH TOPICS

- Teacher attitude and student achievement
- Parent interest and involvement, and teens staying out of trouble
- Society's stereotypes and student rebellion

6. EXPLANATORY/INSTRUCTIVE PARAGRAPH TOPICS

- How to make French toast for breakfast
- How to snowboard

PARAGRAPH MARKING CHECKLIST

- 1. Is the main idea of my paragraph clear?
- 2. Do I have a topic sentence?
- 3. Do all the supporting sentences focus on the main idea.
- 4. Are my ideas in an order that makes sense?
- 5. Did I use linking words to show how my ideas relate to each other?
- 6. Do I have a strong concluding sentence?
- 7. Did I check for errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation?

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