



GENERAL ENGLISH 2 SEMESTER

PARAGRAPH WRITING

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POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Every paragraph begins with a key sentence or topic sentence.
- The sentences that follow the topic sentence provide information related to the key sentence.
- Normally a paragraph may have around 8 - 10 sentences each.
- More than that it becomes a challenge for the writer to bring coherence to the paragraph.
- Unity, order, coherence and linkers or logical connectors are very important in a good paragraph.



PARAGRAPH WRITING

- Objective: To acquire the skills of composing and writing a good and coherent paragraph.
- The opinion of Wren and Martin, “ a paragraph is a number of sentences grouped together and relating to one topic or a group of related sentences that develop a single point.”
- So, a paragraph is a group of sentences that talk about one idea or point of argument or one situation as a single thing.



CHARACTERISTICS OF A PARAGRAPH

- Unity
- Clarity
- Emphasis
- Variety



UNITY

- A paragraph should have single central idea.
- It is called topic sentence.
- Usually it will be the first sentence of the paragraph.
- The unity of the thought must be there in the paragraph.
- The supporting sentences should provide details relevant to the paragraph.
- Usually a good topic sentence depends on the theme selected.
- There should be no irrelevant matter in paragraph that has no relation with the topic sentence.



CLARITY

- The sentences should be arranged in a logical way that brings an order to the paragraph.
- There should be free flow of thoughts.
- Each sentence should be connected with the other sentence in a coherent way.



EMPHASIS

- The space provided for each sentence that supports the topic sentence should have the same importance.
- i.e., it should be given equal importance in the formulation of the paragraph.



VARIETY

- The paragraph should be of different length to avoid monotony.
- This helps in the construction of a good paragraph.
- The sentence construction should also have variety to avoid monotony.



Example passage

- CHARACTER
- The crown and glory of life is character. It is the noblest possession of a man, constituting a rank in itself, and an estate in the general good-will, dignifying every station and exalting every position in society. It exercises a greater power than wealth and secures all the honour without the jealousies of fame. It is human nature in its best form. It is moral order embodied in the individual. Men of character are not only the conscience of society, but in every well-governed state they are its motive power; for it is moral qualities in the man which rule the world.

(Source: Insights II, II Semester B.Com., General English Text Book)

PS: For exercises, please refer the Text Book