

Body Paragraphs & Transitions

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will construct a well-organized body paragraph using the claim-evidence-explanation structure.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 4 strips of paper (cut from notebook paper)
- scissors
- tape
- pen or pencil

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Cut a sheet of notebook paper into 4 strips. On strip 1 write a topic sentence, on strip 2 write your evidence (quote or fact), on strip 3 write 1-2 sentences explaining how the evidence supports the claim, and on strip 4 write a transition sentence linking to the next paragraph.
2. Mix up the 4 strips and try to put them back in the correct paragraph order without looking at your notes.
3. Tape the strips in the correct order onto a new sheet of paper to form one complete body paragraph.
4. Circle at least 2 transition words or phrases (like 'furthermore,' 'for example,' 'as a result') you used across the strips.

QUESTIONS

1. What are the 3 parts of a strong body paragraph, in order?
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2. Were you able to correctly reorder your mixed-up strips? What clues helped you figure out the order?
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3. List the 2 transition words or phrases you circled.
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4. Why do transitions matter in an argument essay?
