

Drafting a Body Paragraph with Evidence

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will write a complete body paragraph that integrates evidence smoothly using the claim-evidence-explanation structure.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- notebook paper
- pen
- index cards from Week 2 and 5
- highlighter

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Choose your strongest reason and its evidence from your Week 2 poster and Week 5 citation cards.
2. Write a topic sentence that states this reason clearly, in your own words.
3. Write 1-2 sentences introducing and including your evidence (quote or paraphrase) with a proper citation.
4. Write 2 sentences of explanation connecting the evidence back to your thesis — answer 'so what?' or 'why does this matter?'
5. Highlight the topic sentence in one color and the explanation sentences in another color, and check that the evidence sentence sits between them (the 'evidence sandwich').

QUESTIONS

1. Write your topic sentence for this body paragraph.
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2. Write your explanation sentences that connect the evidence to your thesis.
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3. What is the 'evidence sandwich' structure, and why is it effective?
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4. What would happen if you left out the explanation sentences?
