

A high-speed train, likely a TGV, is shown in motion, blurred background, with text overlay. The train is silver with yellow and red accents. The text is in yellow and reads "TRIAC Train: Fast Track to Paragraph Writing".

TRIAC Train: Fast Track to Paragraph Writing



A topic sentence is the most important sentence in a paragraph. The topic sentence helps organize the paragraph by summarizing the information in the paragraph.

A topic sentence essentially tells what the rest of the paragraph is about. Every topic sentence will have a topic and a controlling idea. The controlling idea shows the direction the paragraph will take.



Restating or narrowing the subject so readers get prepared for the details and examples to support your claims.

Restating is not writing the same sentence twice. Restating makes the subject more specific.



Illustration Sentences

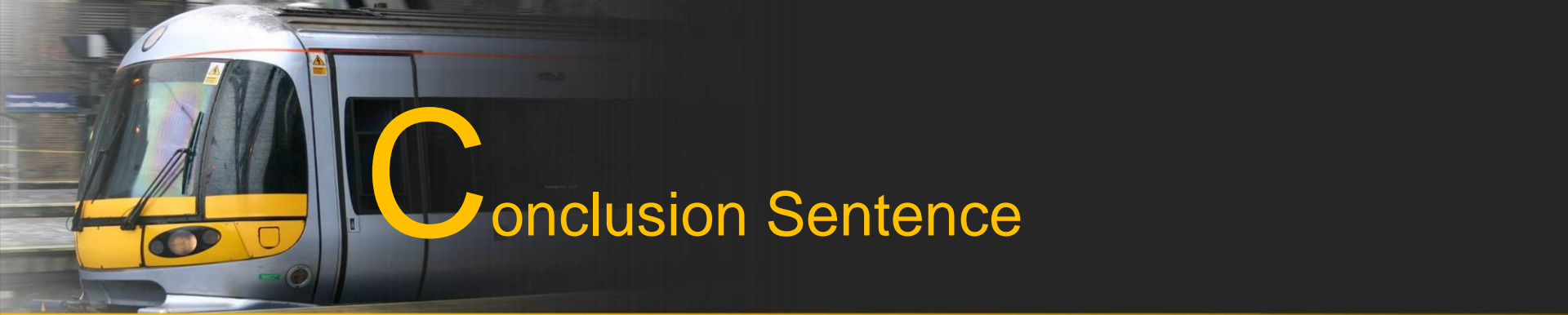
Illustrations are specific evidence, data, facts, quotes and/or examples to back up your topic sentence. Some times “Illustration Sentences” are called “Supporting Details.”

Most often these illustrations are cited. In this class, citations are based on the MLA standards.



Analysis means to explain to readers what the illustrations mean with regard to your topic and perhaps how they are relative to your thesis statement.

Analysis gets beyond mere description and into examination and explanation. Analysis involves connecting smaller bits of language or ideas back to larger parts of language or ideas in a way that reveals something unexpected. Analysis is *not* just summary or simply stating what is obvious.



This is often called a clincher sentence(s) that re-emphasizes what the paragraph has discussed. It can also be considered a transition sentence to the next paragraph.

The concluding sentence pulls together or summarizes the main idea of the paragraph, usually in a single sentence.

Make sure the concluding sentence does not introduce another subject not covered in the paragraph.