English 8 – Expository Paragraph Template

**Expository Paragraphs**

* These paragraphs explain topics.
* These topics are usually divided into sections of smaller ideas (i.e. parts to a whole, steps to a process, similarities, differences, etc.). You determine what the sections or ideas are, but they should be clear to the reader and connected to the larger topic.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Topic Sentence** – ONE sentence to show to your reader your paragraph topic and reveal a little about what you intend to write about it.

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**Body Section 1** – Introduce this smaller idea, provide proof, a description, or explanation of this idea, and comment on why this idea is significant. Try to do this in TWO - THREE sentences.

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**Body Section 2** – Transition to the next smaller idea. Introduce this smaller idea, provide proof, an explanation, or a description of this idea, and comment on why this idea is significant. Try to do this in TWO - THREE sentences.

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**Body Section 3** - Transition to the next smaller idea. Introduce this smaller idea, provide proof, an explanation, or a description of this idea, and comment on why this idea is significant. Try to do this in TWO - THREE sentences.

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**Concluding Sentence** – In ONE or TWO sentences, try to summarize the smaller ideas you discussed, and comment on their significance as part of the larger topic you wrote about.

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**Assessment Checklist:**

This paragraph has the following:

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| * **Topic Sentence** clearly reveals the topic to be discussed
* The writing clearly **reflects** the **purpose** of the type of paragraph attempted
* Body Sentences in sequential, **logical order**
* **Ideas** in the body section are effective and **well explained**
* **Appropriate transitions** between body sentences
 | * **Concluding sentence** provides a thoughtful final word on the subject
* Attempts at vivid, effective, and sophisticated **vocabulary**.
* Tone is **formal**
* Proper spelling, punctuation, and capitalization
* The paragraph is approximately 8-11 sentences long.
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