

The Two Chunk Method

How to improve the commentary of your paragraph.



DEVELOPING YOUR BODY PARAGRAPH



- Concept: the two-chunk paragraph is a method that will help you develop strong evidence-based writing for literary analysis.
- This method provides a structure for you to
 - cite strong evidence
 - explain how you have interpreted the evidence to support your claim

TO REITERATE



- The basic idea is that you state your claim in your topic sentence, prove what you're saying with two "chunks" of information, and then reassert your point in a concluding sentence

BASIC OUTLINE

Topic sentence (TS) – This sentence tells the reader what the main idea of the paragraph is. Typically, you state the claim that you are going to prove. If you are writing a paragraph in response to a question, the topic sentence should answer the question.

a. Concrete Detail 1 (CD1): Specific evidence taken directly from the text, either as a quotation or paraphrase.

b. Commentary 1 (COM1): This is where you interpret the detail and explain how it supports your claim.

c. Transition (TR): A phrase or sentence that shows how the two chunks are connected, such as a phrase like “Another example of this...” to transition to a supporting detail or a contrasting transition like “however...”

d. Concrete Detail 2 (CD2): A second piece of evidence from the text.

e. Commentary 2 (COM2): As with the first chunk, interpret the detail and explain how it supports your claim.

Concluding Sentence (CS): “wrap up” the paragraph by reasserting the claim you made in the topic sentence.

COMMENTARY



- Commentary is your explanation of HOW the concrete detail proves your point. This is where “you” get to express yourself. This is where your voice gets heard.