

Basic Paragraph Template: Purpose is to explain the content or answer

	+4	+3	+2	+1
Topic sentence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Statement to let the reader know what they are reading about • Reference to the text that you got your information from • A restatement of the question or prompt 				
Answer to the question or prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the answer address the question or prompt completely or is there more that could have been defined 				
Evidence #1 provided to validate the answer given <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quote could be used or paraphrased content from text is present 				
Explanation #1 of the evidence given above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student elaborates why the information applies to the answer 				
Evidence #2 provided to validate the answer given <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quote could be used or paraphrased content from text is present 				
Explanation #2 of the evidence given above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student elaborates why the information applies to the answer 				
Evidence #3 provided to validate the answer given <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quote could be used or paraphrased content from text is present 				
Explanation #3 of the evidence given above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student elaborates why the information applies to the answer 				
Conclusion Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circle back reminder of what the reader should have learned 				
Mechanics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital letters at the beginning of a statement • End marks at the end of the statement • Commas to show a list of items and after introductory statements • Complete thoughts – no fragments without purpose • Spelling mistakes for words within the grade level expectations • Use of transitions to smoothly flow from one idea to another • Incorporation and use of academic language for the topic 				