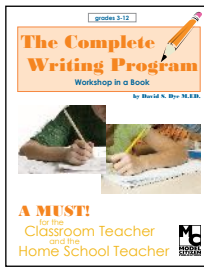
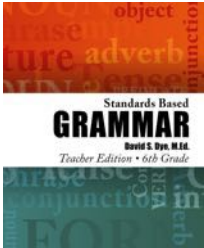
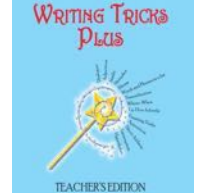
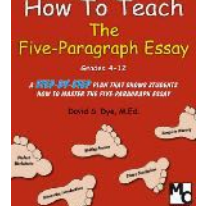
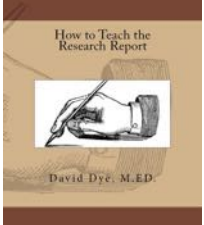


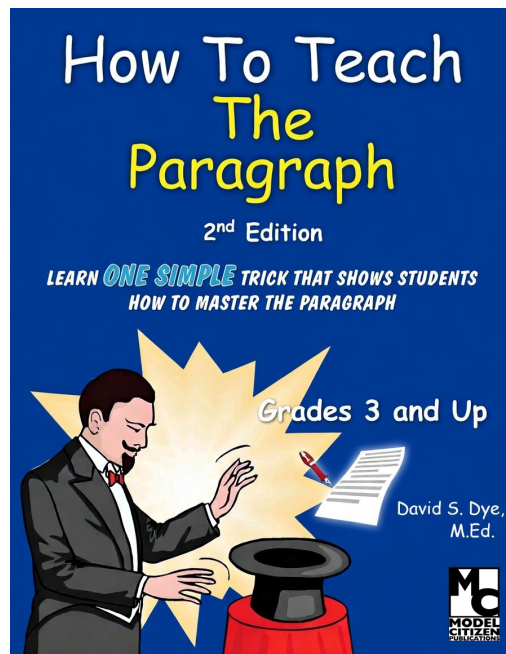
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All the best,
David Dye

	<p>Teach your students the five aspects of great writing, no matter what the grade level. This is truly <u>The Complete Writing Program</u>. Supplement your current writing program or follow the year long lesson plan. Content includes <u>The Writing Process</u>, <u>Descriptive Writing</u>, <u>Vocabulary Development</u>, <u>Variety of Sentence Structure</u>, <u>Letter Writing</u>, <u>Report Writing</u>, and much more. Furthermore, the special assessment component shows you how to teach your students how to assess each others' writing. No longer will you have to correct every single piece of writing your students complete. Let them assess each other and reinforce for each other the lessons you have taught throughout the year. Work smarter, not harder with <u>The Complete Writing Program</u>.</p>
	<p><u>Standards Based Grammar</u> meets every standard required for your grade level. This step-by-step program uses worksheets to introduce grammar, punctuation, and writing skills. Mastery of each skill is achieved through the journal assignments, which force your students to prove that they have acquired each skill. Use the parent checklists to show parents their children's strengths and areas of need for additional support at home. Use the teacher checklists to keep track of skills mastered by each student. This program is powerful enough to use exclusively as your daily grammar program, yet affordable enough to use as a supplement. Over a hundred lessons, ready to teach, right now!</p>
	<p>Tired of reading the same boring sentences? Show your students more than a dozen exciting ways to write intelligent sentences. Students learn to use a variety of sentence structures and make their writing come alive. Techniques such as <u>Dialogue</u>, <u>Interrupters</u>, <u>Simile/Metaphor</u>, <u>Phrases in a Series</u>, <u>Hyperbole</u> and more will have your students writing stronger sentences today. <u>Writing Tricks Plus</u> is organized into units that require students to master each trick, practice the tricks within journal assignments, model and assess the tricks for each other, and much more.</p>
	<p><u>How To Teach The Five-Paragraph Essay</u> is the definitive book on essay writing. Your students will master this very important skill using a simple, easy to learn format. They will be prepared for any timed test as they gain the ability to prewrite, write, and revise their writing in about an hour. Furthermore, your students will learn to write <u>Interesting Introductions</u>, <u>Classy Conclusions</u>, and <u>Terrific Transitions</u>.</p>
	<p><u>How To Teach The Research Report</u> is the definitive book on report writing. This book takes the incredibly difficult task of research report writing and breaks it into simple, easy-to-follow steps. Begin with the one-paragraph research report and teach the basics of report writing. Progress to the five-paragraph research report using the exact same techniques. Finally, the students are ready to make the smooth transition to the 3 - 5 page research report. A must for any classroom from grades five through twelve.</p>

How To Teach the Paragraph



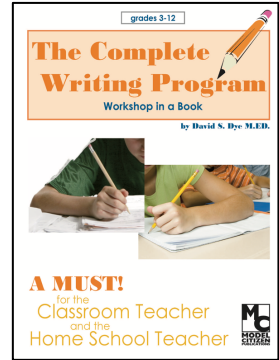
From David Dye's Writing Workshop:
The Complete Writing Program

Introduction:

If they can write a strong, well-organized paragraph, they can write anything!

In my writing workshops I present these lessons to show teachers how to teach the paragraph. I've run into teachers who have taken my workshop years in the past who continue to praise this technique. It's quick, powerful, and effective. Best of all, if you are using *The Complete Writing Program* (available at CreateBetterWriters.com), the quick learners move on to bigger and better things, leaving you time to reinforce this essential skill with the rest of your class.

The paragraph is the foundation of great writing. If your students can write an intelligent, well-organized paragraph, they can write anything. As a matter of fact, if you use this method to teach the paragraph, you can literally teach the essay and research report in minutes. Yes, they will need time and practice to gain confidence, but using these strategies will make transitioning to larger writing assignments incredibly easy.



Overview

Here, I will review the steps. At times, two or three steps can be done in a day. Follow each step at your class's pace. Take your time if you must; this is a crucial skill. After the overview, I will explain the steps in greater detail.

Paragraph Writing – Overview

Part I – The Basics

- Step 1 – Assessment: Students write a paragraph (p. 2)
- Step 2 – Learning the five parts of a good paragraph (p. 3)
- Step 3 – Memorize the Five Parts of a Paragraph (p. 3)
- Step 4 – The Paper Set Up (p. 5)
- Step 5 – Write a Paragraph Together: The Prewrite (p. 6)
- Step 6 – Write a Paragraph Together: The Paragraph (p. 8)

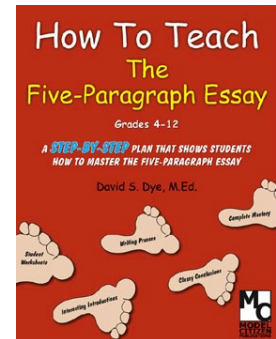
Part II – Improving the Parts of a Paragraph

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Part I – The Basics

Step 1 – Assessment: Students Write a Paragraph.

I've taught third through eighth grade and, with every grade, I begin with the paragraph. The key to any piece of writing is to gather the information, decide what is important and what isn't, and finally, to organize the information. Once that is done, the writing is the easy part. With this system, the students will learn one easy "trick" to do all of this. The beauty of this system is that, once they've mastered these skills with the paragraph, the "trick" will only need minor adjustments, and the students will be able use these skills to write essays, research reports, narratives, and any other genre of writing. If you continue with *How to Teach the Five Paragraph Essay* and *The Complete Writing Program*, you will see how easy it is for you students to transition almost effortlessly to the essay, story writing and much more.



On the first day of school, ask students to write a paragraph about something that they did over the summer. This is a nice, broad topic and allows you to spot key mistakes right away. Will the students write about several different activities or just one? Will they stick to one main idea? How many sentences will they write? The only help I give them is to say that I am checking to see if they know how to write a paragraph. "What ever you think a good paragraph should be, show me!" is all I say.

You may want to repeat the process on the second day. Maybe they were rusty from the long summer break. You can have them write another paragraph about something else that they did over the summer.

Finally, take the students' second paragraphs and use them to create an inventory of skills for each student. Use a class roster to check off if each student had a topic sentence, closing sentence, at least four supporting details, and stuck to one main idea. You will use this information later to show them how close (or far) they are to writing strong paragraphs. It also provides a great piece of information at parent conferences and IEP's.

Step 1 Summary:

- A. Give a paragraph pretest.
- B. Make a checklist:
 - Do the students know how to write a topic / closing sentence?
 - Do the students use supporting details?
 - Do the students stick to One Main Idea?

Step 2 – Learning the Five Parts:

Let the students try to guess the five parts of a good paragraph.

Write the numbers 1 – 5 on the board. Have the students write numbers 1-5 on their papers. Let the students try to guess the five parts of the paragraph. Make a game out of it. Offer five raffle tickets or a small prize to the student who can name **the #1 part of a paragraph**. (The list is in

order of importance.) Offer four raffle tickets for the student who guesses the second item and so on. As the students correctly name an item on the list, write it on the board in its proper sequence, and have the students copy it on their list. If the students say “Topic Sentence”, put it next to number two and repeat this for all five steps. The class will have fun, and it will get them thinking about everything they’ve ever been taught about writing. This is a great time of review, even if they don’t discover all five. For the classes that aren’t coming close, give as many hints as you can until they get it.

A Good Paragraph	
1.	One Main Idea
2.	Topic Sentence
3.	5-7 Sentences
4.	Closing Sentence
5.	Indent; Spelling and Punctuation

When finished, heavily emphasize that a paragraph is about ONE MAIN IDEA. Do call and response over and over: “What is a paragraph about?” The class will respond, “ONE MAIN IDEA”. Look each student in the eyes and ask, “What is a paragraph about?” The student responds, “ONE MAIN IDEA”. Ask them during math, on the way to lunch, and when you see them on the playground. It should become a reflex, like when a doctor taps your knee with that little hammer. A paragraph is about ONE MAIN IDEA!

Step 2 Summary:

- A. Number 1 – 5 on the board.
- B. Have the students number 1-5 on their papers.
- C. Let the students try to guess the five parts of the paragraph.
- D. As the students guess correctly, write the items on the board in the correct sequence.

Step 3 – Memorize the Five Parts of a Paragraph

First, ask the class, “Who can name one item on the list without looking?” Next ask, “Who can name two items without looking?” Keep going until someone can name all five. If you’re giving out a prize of some kind (Jolly Ranchers, Raffle Tickets, etc.) the kids will be studying frantically while another student is answering.