

In the Name of God

Semnan University

Department of English Language and Literature
Advanced Paragraph Writing (BA)

Instructor: Dr. Z. Mirsanjari

Class Meeting Times: Tuesdays (17-19)

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Course Description and Objectives:

This 13-week course is designed to develop advanced paragraph writing skills for non-native B.A. students. Meeting for two hours each week, the course focuses on the elements of paragraph construction, coherence, cohesion, and various paragraph types. The aim is to enhance students' ability to write clear, concise, and well-organized paragraphs, preparing them for more complex writing tasks. Feedback from peers and the instructor will be a key component in improving writing proficiency.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Construct well-developed paragraphs with clear topic sentences, supporting details, and concluding sentences.
 - Apply different methods of paragraph development, including descriptive, narrative, cause-effect, comparison, and exemplification.
 - Revise and refine paragraphs based on peer and instructor feedback.
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Assignments:

1. Active Class Participation and Preparation:

Students are expected to come prepared, having completed assigned readings and exercises. Active engagement in class discussions and peer review sessions is essential. Attending class alone is not enough to earn participation points.

2. Paragraph Portfolio Project:

Students should submit a paragraph on an assigned topic each week. These paragraphs will be shared with group members for peer review, and students are responsible for revising their work based on the feedback received. Each paragraph should be refined and resubmitted as part of a portfolio, which will be turned in at the end of the term. This portfolio should include original drafts, peer feedback, and revised versions.

Note: Timely submissions and active involvement in providing feedback to peers are crucial.

Course Schedule:

Session	Content
1	Introduction to the course
2	Paragraph structure: Topic and supporting sentences
3	Developing coherence and cohesion
4	Descriptive paragraph writing
5	Practice
6	Narrative paragraph writing
7	Practice
8	Comparison and contrast paragraphs
9	Practice
10	Cause and effect paragraphs
11	Practice
12	Exemplification and classification paragraphs
13	Practice
14	Final Exam / Portfolio Submission

Source:

Bailey, E. P., & Powell, P. A. (2008). *The practical writer: with readings*. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

Arnaudet, M. L., & Barrett, M. E. (1990). *Paragraph development: A guide for students of English*.

Note: The instructor will provide supplementary materials and exercises for additional reading and practice during the term.

Grading:

- **Class Participation and Peer Feedback:** 5 points
- **Paragraph Portfolio:** 5 points
- **Final Exam:** 10 points

© **Note:** The syllabus is subject to modification based on class progress and needs.