

# Drafting the Body

Organization, Development, & Style

# Problem-Solution Organization

- Introduction ✓
- Background
- Current situation
- Paragraphs illustrating the problem/need for change
- Paragraphs offering a solution
- Conclusion: visualization and call to action

# Problem-Solution Organization

- Introduction
- Background
- Current situation
- Paragraphs illustrating the problem/need for change
- Paragraphs offering a solution
- Conclusion: visualization and call to action

Please remember that you will have a centered, bolded header for each of these sections. The introduction is led by the main title of the paper. See APA document set up information!

# Body Paragraphs: Background

This section of the paper should help give historical context for your topic. This may be factual background, it may describe the model or theory behind your topic, or it may explain a key concept. Here are some ideas/examples based on our topics.

- **Deforestation:** Explain when this started to become a serious concern. Identify industries that helped begin the problem.
- **Wage gap:** Offer facts to help explain how this wage gap was established (different fields open to men and women, women working in WWI and WWII).
- **Plastics:** Write about the development of plastics and how/why they became so essential to the modern world.

## Body Paragraphs: Background

These paragraphs will share a lot of factual information, such as dates, events, etc. You should still use a CLEW paragraph format to give your paragraph shape and to guide your reader's understanding.

- **Claim:** Plastics' cheap manufacture and resilience changed . . .
- **Evidence:** Facts that support that claim
- **Warrant:** Connect the facts back to *cheap, resilience, and change*.
- **Closing:** Bring it all together at the end.

# Body Paragraphs: The Current Situation

Establish the current situation. Use factual information and logical reasoning to show where we stand right now.

For example:

What is the rate of deforestation right now? Where are the remaining forests, and what is happening to them? What industries are responsible?

What are the facts of the current wage gap? Does it still reflect the different jobs men and women commonly take? What does it look like within specific industries?

How much plastic is being produced each day? What industries use plastics? How much plastic is thrown away?

## Body Paragraphs: The Current Situation

Sometimes, students have a hard time separating the current situation from the problems. Describing the current situation leads so naturally into a discussion of the problems that it ends up feeling silly and awkward to create a separate section. If this happens to you, just combine the two sections into one under one header.

# Body Paragraphs: The Problem

- Break down the problems resulting from the current situation. Use factual information and logical reasoning to support each problem in its own paragraph(s).
- Explain clearly how/why these are problems.
- Address your opposition directly or indirectly.
- Order paragraphs to develop points logically and persuasively.
  - What does your reader need to know first?
  - What is your most compelling point?



# Body Paragraphs: The Problem

Example (these would each be an example)

1. Deforestation eliminates habitats and endangers species.
2. Deforestation is changing the climate.
3. Deforestation ruins arable land.

And so on . . .

## Body Paragraphs: The Solution

- Propose your solution. You may have a single solution or you may have several actions/ways to create change.
  - Explain how it works.
  - Offer research to support the use of this solution. Are other countries doing this? Some states? How has it helped?
- Address each aspect of the problem to show this solution works.
- Address your opposition directly or indirectly.
- Order paragraphs to develop points logically and persuasively.

# Addressing the Opposition

- Addressing your opposition is necessary to create a sound argument and to show your thorough understanding of the topic.
- It is not your goal to ridicule or demean the opposition. Your opposition is a part of your audience, too, and the part that needs the most persuasion.
- Use respectful wording that doesn't show bias and doesn't attack the opposition.
- Address the opposition in both the problem and solution, whenever the argument's logical development requires it.
- Steps to address the opposition:
  - Acknowledge the validity of the opposition.
  - Counter the opposition using facts, logical reasoning, etc.
  - Sum up to show the superiority of your position. This doesn't mean you are "right" and the opposition is "wrong."

# Persuasive Language

Below are techniques that support your persuasive purpose. We will depend upon evidence and logical reasoning most heavily; we will use the others more sparingly to create emphasis and importance, not to replace reasoning and fact. Introduction and conclusion are key places to incorporate persuasive language.

- Evidence and logical reasoning: statistics, facts, similar situation/historical example, clear explanation
- Word choice: elevated/formal language, loaded/emotive language, rhetorical question, verbal irony, imagery
- Sound devices: alliteration, consonance/assonance, repetition, parallelism, rule of 3
- Figurative comparisons: metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole
- Examples: anecdote, analogy, quotations from credible sources

# Persuasive Language

Rhetorical devices are stylistic devices the writer uses to draw attention to or clarify ideas.

Hear the words: repetition, alliteration, parallelism

Get the idea: word choice, analogy, imagery

Audience ownership: rhetorical question

Your writing style helps get the job done.

Playing the piano v. playing music: technical writing v. persuasive writing

Style should never overwhelm or replace logical, factual content.