

Sample Two-Paragraph Template

Directions: Use this table as a guide to organize your sentences as you write two paragraphs on the assigned topic.

Sentence Number	Type of Sentence
1	Topic sentence: State your <i>claim</i> (purpose of the text).
2–3	Lead-in: Establish a context for the upcoming evidence, or explain a little about what you are claiming. You might define vocabulary or add context to further your idea.
4	Quotation or evidence: Make sure you choose one of the best quotes or pieces of evidence from the text that will support your claim.
5–6	Justification or reasoning: Now explain why your evidence is important. How and why does this evidence help support your claim? Explain the reasoning behind why your evidence proves your claim.

Sentence Number	Type of Sentence
7	Quotation or evidence: Make sure your second quote or piece of evidence supports your claim as well. Make sure you transition carefully into the evidence; don't just drop it in the middle of the paragraph with no sentence setting it up.
8–9	Justification or reasoning: Now explain why your evidence is important. Why does it help to support your claim? Explain the reasoning why your evidence proves your claim.
10	Return to the claim (concluding sentence): Return to the claim. This last sentence should relink your evidence and ideas back to your primary claim.