



# Paragraph Analysis

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EXAMPLE

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# Teacher – Paragraph Analysis

## Lesson:

This lesson highlights the important features of a paragraph. It analyses structure, topic development, in-text referencing, cohesion and author’s stance. It finishes with paragraph writing practice using key ideas and academic sources.

## **Introduction [10 minutes]**

1. Students discuss what the main features of a paragraph are.
2. Draw a 4-row table (Figure 1) on board. Students work in small groups to label the four parts of a basic paragraph. Teacher monitors and supports [with **Paragraph ANSWERS**].

1	
2	
3	
4	

Figure 1

1	<b>Topic sentence</b> – key topic in this paragraph.
2	<b>Development</b> – the main idea / topic discussed in more detail.
3	<b>Example</b> – support / evidence / data / statistics that show your development is valid / credible.
4	<b>Summary</b> – overall main point summarised / evaluated.

**Paragraph ANSWERS**

## **Basic Paragraph Analysis 1 [20 minutes]**

1. Give out ‘Basic Paragraph Analysis 1’ worksheet.
2. Work through ‘Task’ at the bottom of the worksheet step-by-step.
  - Step 1. Students highlight features in Q1.
  - Step 2. Feedback - use the **Basic Paragraph Analysis 1 ANSWERS** [pg.6].
  - Step 3. Students highlight features in Q2.
  - Step 4. Feedback – use the **Basic Paragraph Analysis 1 ANSWERS** [pg.7].
 Continue with Questions 3 & 4.

## **Writing [60 minutes]**

This is consolidation and practice. Students write one paragraph using the knowledge acquired from the paragraph analysis lesson. Write a basic paragraph on **Globalisation**.

- 1) Give out the paragraph writing activity sheet.
- 2) Students read the question and use the ideas to write a paragraph.
- 3) Students write at least 100-150 words and use correct referencing / paraphrasing.
- 4) EXTRA: students can write two paragraphs.

## **More Lessons: Advanced paragraph analysis lesson**

Block and point-by-point paragraph analysis lesson: [www.academic-englishuk.com/paragraph-analysis](http://www.academic-englishuk.com/paragraph-analysis)

## Basic Paragraph Analysis 1

**Question:** *Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is not an important consideration for business in 2020. To what extent do you agree?*

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can generate a positive reputation for a company leading to possibly more sales and growth. According to Jones et al (2019), a corporation that invests [REDACTED] of CSR will demonstrate to the public and the media that they are a responsible company. Watson (2018) states that this improves [REDACTED] tend to support [REDACTED] thus improving [REDACTED]. For example, a yoghurt company called [REDACTED] has been investing in making its products [REDACTED] recyclable [REDACTED]. As a result, profits have doubled within the last two years providing the company with a range of [REDACTED] (2019). Overall, the evidence seems to suggest [REDACTED] brand image and productivity.

### **Task**

1. **Highlight** the paragraph structure (topic sentence / development / examples or evidence / concluding sentence).
2. Highlight the topic, the controlling idea in the topic sentence and the connecting key terms throughout the paragraph.
3. Highlight the in-text referencing and reporting verbs.
4. Highlight the cohesive devices.
5. Highlight the author's voice and stance?

## Paragraph Writing Activity: Globalisation

**Question:** *Is globalisation [redacted] on the world?*

- 1) Read the question and use the ideas (below) to write a paragraph.
- 2) Choose a stance (yes or no).
- 3) Write either in block or point-by-point structure.
- 4) Write at least 100-150 words and use correct referencing / paraphrasing.

### YES

Globalisation represents free trade, which [redacted], creates jobs, makes [redacted] and lowers prices for all consumers (WTO, 2018).

Through foreign capital and technology, poor countries [redacted] to [redacted]. It also creates the conditions in which democracy and respect for [redacted] (The Economist, 2018).

Globalisation [redacted] whereby politics and economics are merging. Global decisions are now being taken, which [redacted] the world (UN, 2020).

### NO

Multi-national corporations are exploiting developing [redacted], unfair working [redacted] and lack of concern for the environment (UN, 2020).

Developed countries are losing jobs [redacted] - cost countries. For example, [redacted] taken 3.2 million jobs, including 2.4 million manufacturing jobs (Scott, 2019).

Not all free [redacted]. For instance, 161 countries have [redacted] (VATs) on imports, which [redacted]. The U.S. does not have VAT (Forbes, 2017).

# Teacher Answers

## Basic paragraph

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## Basic Paragraph Analysis 1: ANSWERS

1. Highlight the paragraph structure (topic sentence / development / examples or evidence / concluding sentence).

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can generate a positive reputation for a company leading to possibly more sales and growth. According to Jones et al (2019), a corporation that invests in [REDACTED] of CSR will demonstrate to the public and the media that they are a responsible company. Watson (2018) states that this improves [REDACTED] tend to support [REDACTED] thus improving [REDACTED]. For example, a yoghurt company called [REDACTED] has been investing in making its products [REDACTED] recyclable [REDACTED]. As a result, profits have doubled within the last two years providing the company with a range of [REDACTED], 2019). Overall, the evidence seems to suggest [REDACTED] brand image and productivity.

- **Topic sentence**
- **Development /** [REDACTED]
- **Examples /** [REDACTED]
- **Concluding sentence**

## Basic Paragraph Analysis 1: ANSWERS

2. Highlight the topic, the controlling ideas in the topic sentence and connecting key terms throughout the paragraph.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can generate a positive reputation for a company leading to possibly more sales and growth. According to Jones et al (2019), a corporation that invests in the [redacted] of CSR will demonstrate to the public and the media that they are a responsible company. Watson (2018) states that this improves [redacted] tend to support [redacted] thus improving [redacted]. For example, a yoghurt company called [redacted] has been investing in making its products [redacted] recyclable [redacted]. As a result, profits have doubled within the last two years providing the company with a range of [redacted], 2019). Overall, the evidence seems to suggest [redacted] brand image and productivity.

- **Topic:** Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- **Controlling ideas:** reputation / [redacted] / growth
- **Connecting key terms:**
- CSR: environmental / ethical approaches / CSR / [redacted] / organic, / [redacted] / CO2 output / CSR
- Reputation: public / [redacted] / brand image
- Sales: consumer sales / [redacted] / profits / doubled
- Growth: encouraging growth / [redacted] / productivity

## Basic Paragraph Analysis 1: ANSWERS

3. Highlight the in-text referencing and reporting verbs.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can generate a positive reputation for a company leading to possibly more sales and growth. **According to Jones et al (2019)**, a corporation that invests in the [redacted] of CSR will demonstrate to the public and the media that they are a responsible company. **Watson (2018) states** that this improves [redacted] tend to support [redacted] thus improving [redacted]. For example, a yoghurt company called [redacted] has been investing in making its products [redacted] recyclable [redacted]. As a result, profits have doubled within the last two years providing the company with a range of [redacted], **2019**). Overall, the evidence seems to suggest [redacted] brand image and productivity.

- **In-text referencing**
- **Reference Verbs**



## Basic Paragraph Analysis 1: ANSWERS

### 4. Highlight the cohesive devices.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can generate a positive reputation for a company **leading to** possibly more sales and growth. According to Jones et al (2019), a corporation **that** invests in the [redacted] of CSR will demonstrate to the public and the media **that** they are a responsible company. Watson (2018) states that **this** improves [redacted] tend to support [redacted] **thus** improving [redacted]. **For example**, a yoghurt company called [redacted] has been investing in making **its** products [redacted] recyclable [redacted]. **As a result**, profits have doubled within the last two years **providing** the company with a range of [redacted], 2019). **Overall**, the evidence seems to suggest [redacted] brand image and productivity.

- Cohesive devices

## Basic Paragraph Analysis 1: ANSWERS

5. Highlight the author's voice and stance?

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) **can** generate a positive reputation for a company leading to **possibly more** sales and growth. According to Jones et al (2019), a corporation that invests in the [redacted] of CSR **will demonstrate** to the public and the media that they are a responsible company. Watson (2018) states that this improves [redacted] **tend to** support [redacted] thus **improving** [redacted]. For example, a yoghurt company called [redacted] has been investing in making its products [redacted] recyclable [redacted]. As a result, profits have doubled within the last two years providing the company with **a range of** [redacted] (2019). Overall, the evidence **seems to suggest** [redacted] brand image and productivity.

- **Stance**
- **Cautious / hedging language**
- **The author clearly disagrees with the question: *Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is [redacted] consideration for business in 2020***