**How to Write a GREAT Paragraph**

1. Start with a topic sentence that states what the whole paragraph is going to be about.
2. Include 3 major points
3. For each major point include 1-2 minor points that use one of the 5 E’s to add to your majors.
   1. Examples
   2. Evidence
   3. Explanations
   4. Experience
   5. Events
4. Throughout your major and minor sentences use transition words to make your ideas flow smoothly
5. End with a concluding sentence that wraps up the paragraph (without repeating EXACTLY what you said in the topic sentence) AND leaves the reader with something to think about.

Example:

The poodle makes a perfect pet because poodles offer their owners a companionship for life, not to mention that they have a loveable personality. Poodles are sweet, smart, playful and well-mannered and they love to be around people. They are always willing to lend their unquestionable love and loyalty when you need it the most and they are yours for life. Apart from being a happy spirited dog and a great companion, the poodle is small and doesn’t require a lot of room so they are ideal for apartments or city setting. The poodle is suited to most environments and lifestyles; whether it be living in the suburbs or downtown, with one person or a couple, or even living with a family and children, the poodle fits right in. The poodle is a dog that warms your heart with its character. It becomes a part of your family no matter where you live and it can provide you with love and companionship that you won’t want to do without. In fact, you can’t ask for a better dog.

**Planning your paragraph**

**Topic Sentence:**

**Major Point #1:**

**Minor Point:**

**Minor Point:**

**Major Point #2:**

**Minor Point:**

**Minor Point:**

**Major Point #3:**

**Minor Point:**

**Minor Point:**

**Conclusion (Something to think about):**