

Body Paragraphs

Writing the Body

- Interpret the evidence (Clearness, sufficiency, and importance/relevance)
- Connect the facts to the conclusion so that the audience understands your thinking (clearness, sufficiency, and depth)
- Use original thinking (avoid discussing what everyone else would discuss)

Body Paragraph Checklist

- Does it have a topic statement?
- Does it examine a particular piece of evidence? (historical fact or document)
- Does it analyze the evidence? (explain, provide context and express significance)
- Does it make a clear, explicit connection between the evidence and the conclusion drawn in the thesis statement?
- Does it make connections between the evidence/conclusion and outside information? (something from another place or time)
- Overall, how effective is the paragraph at supporting the conclusions of the thesis?

Check for clarity

- Use the “so what?” method to check for missing links or connections
- Ask yourself if someone else could explain your **thinking**