**PARAGRAPH ELEMENTS KEY**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Element** | **Abbrev.** | **Explanation** |
| Topic Sentence | TS | The first sentence in a body paragraph. This sentence must have a subject and opinion (commentary) for the paragraph. If using Main Idea, the Main Idea should always follow the topic sentence. It does the same thing for a body paragraph that the thesis does for the whole essay.  |
| Evidence (or Supporting Detail or Concrete Detail) | E | Specific details that form the backbone or core of your body paragraphs. Synonyms for evidence include facts, specifics, examples, descriptions, illustrations, support, proof, evidence, quotations, paraphrasing, or plot reference.  |
| Commentary | CM | Your opinion or comment about something; not a concrete detail. Synonyms include opinion, insight, analysis, interpretation, inference, personal response, feelings, evaluations, explications, and reflection.  |
| Concluding Sentence | CS | The last sentence in the body paragraph. It is all commentary, does not repeat key words, and gives a finished feeling and closure to the paragraph.  |

**PARAGRAPH “CHUNKING”** Fact : Opinion (E : CM)

1 : 2 Chunk TS $\rightarrow $ E $\rightarrow $ CM 1 $\rightarrow $ CM 2 $\rightarrow $ CS

**NO**  I my me you one we us our

1 : 3 Chunk TS $\rightarrow $ E $\rightarrow $ CM 1 $\rightarrow $ CM 2 $\rightarrow $ CM 3 $\rightarrow $CS

2 : 1 Chunk TS $\rightarrow $ E 1 $\rightarrow $ E 2 $\rightarrow $ CM $\rightarrow $ CS

3 : 0 Chunk TS $\rightarrow $ E 1 $\rightarrow $ E 2 $\rightarrow $ E 3 $\rightarrow $ CS

3 : 1 Chunk TS $\rightarrow $ E 1 $\rightarrow $ E 2 $\rightarrow $ E 3 $\rightarrow $ CM $\rightarrow $ CS

**SENTENCE STARTERS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| E 1 | For example…; For instance…; In addition… |
| E 2, 3, etc. | Another example…; This also illustrates…; A third example is… |
| CM 1 | This is important because…; This means…; This shows that… |
| CM 2, 3, etc. | This is important because…; Finally, this is important because… |
| CS | In conclusion…; In summary…; Therefore…; There is little doubt… |