**7 Types of Paragraph Development**

**Narrative Paragraph**

* Focus on an experience or an event
* Uses transitions of time and space (chronological order)
* Use sensory words to develop ideas
* Structured with the topic sentence near or at the end of the paragraph
* Tells a story (contains characters, setting, conflict and resolution)

**Description Paragraph**

* Characterized by vivid sensory description (imagine the scene, object, or person)
* Uses sense words (e.g., *bitter, light, bright, pungent, loud*)
* Includes vivid action verbs (e.g., *dive, drip, rip*)
* Transitions of space (e.g. *here, there, to the left, up*) to give sense impressions of a scene
* Create a dominant sensory impression

**Process Paragraph**

* Explains a process or how to do something through a series of actions
* Uses transitions of enumeration (e.g., *first, second, third*) and/or time (e.g., *then, next, finally*)
* Uses right patterns of development of purpose to help readers understand the steps in a process or procedure or to give instructions
* Relies on clear communication of the instruction or steps to your readers

**Exemplification Paragraph**

* Uses examples (or one longer, extended example) to support the topic sentence
* Useful when your most convincing support is a number of pertinent examples
* You provide proof of a more general statement (the topic sentence) with the weight of the specific instances (supporting details)

**Comparison/Contrast Paragraph**

* Used to help readers understand a concept by pointing out similarities and differences between it and another concept
* Usually developed either by analyzing all features of one concept and then comparing them to the features of the other (a block comparison method) or by analyzing each point of comparison (a point-by-point method)
* Comparison is simply a means to an end and the conclusion of the paragraph should be drawn from your comparison

**Definition Paragraph**

* Gives a complete, working definition of a term, concept or idea in your paper
* Central features is that it tells both what the term is and what it isn’t-it defines the boundaries of a term so your readers can better understand it
* Useful when you are introducing new or specialized terms to your readers, or when you need to define a key concept in your thesis

**Cause and Effect Paragraph**

* Analyzes the causes or the effects of something or the relationship between both
* It explains the “why” of something—a process, an event, a concept
* Transitions of logic (e.g., *thus, therefore, consequently, as a result*) and words and phrases of cause and effect (e.g., *because, for the reason that, given that, in effect*).