

Topic

The start of your paragraph. It tells your audience about what to expect and briefly answers the question posed.

Explanation

The answer to the question posed. It tells your audience why your answer is correct.

Example

The proof that you are correct. It is a quote directly from your text. It proves that your Explanation makes sense.

Conclusion

The wrap-up of your paragraph. It closes your thoughts. You may often re-state your Topic.

An example of a TEEC paragraph for reading comprehension

What is the main idea of the story *Beauty and The Beast*?

Topic: The main idea of Beauty and the Beast is to love people for who they are on the inside.

Explanation: This is the main idea because the story revolves around a monster that turns out to be really nice.

Example: In the text it says, “Then it started to say a few kind words, till in the end Beauty was amazed to discover that she was actually enjoying the conversation. The days passed and Beauty and the Beast became good friends”.

Conclusion: The main idea of the story is to love people for who they are on the inside.

A completed paragraph without the TEEC headings

The main idea of Beauty and the Beast is to love people for who they are on the inside. This is the main idea because the story revolves around a monster that turns out to be really nice. In the text it says, “Then it started to say a few kind words, till in the end Beauty was amazed to discover that she was actually enjoying the conversation. The days passed and Beauty and the Beast became good friends”. The main idea of the story is to love people for who they are on the inside.

Resource:
“Beauty and the Beast.” Original Tale:, N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Apr. 2013
<http://www.fpx.de/fp/Disney/Tales/BeautyAndTheBeast.html>.