

PRE-INTERMEDIATE UNIT 7

paragraphs

speakout WRITING TIP

Most texts are divided into paragraphs, a group of sentences about one main topic. When we start writing about a different topic, we start a new paragraph.

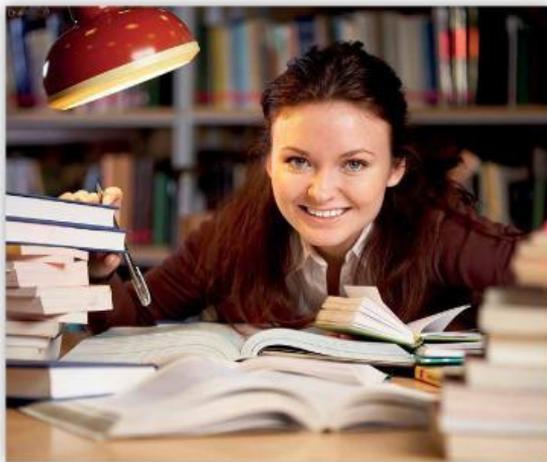
When you write a paragraph, it should present information clearly. A typical paragraph presents the main idea, gives information to support the main idea and finishes with a conclusion.

1A Read the two paragraphs and put the sentences in the correct order (1–8).

- Finally, I decided that the only way to learn English quickly was to go abroad. _____
- Because I didn't know any foreign languages, it was hard to find a job. _____
- I used to look everywhere for jobs, for example online, but they always asked for English. _____
- One of the best decisions I ever made was to learn English abroad. _____
- Now, I have a great job and I speak English everyday. _____
- After three months my English was much better. _____
- I went to a language school in the morning, and I worked in a hotel in the afternoon. _____
- I wanted to go to a big city, so I decided to go to Dublin in Ireland. _____

B Which sentences ...

- present the main idea?
- give information to support the main idea?
- provide a conclusion.



2A Unjumble the words to make phrases for writing about a change in someone's life.

1 example, / spent / I / a / For / all day / in front of / computer.

2 my / love / I / Now / job!

3 hated / work. / I / going to / Before that,

4 a teacher. / and / become / was / best decisions / One of the / my office job / I ever made / to quit

5 back / to / went / So / college. / I

6 I wanted to / as a primary / decided to train / school teacher. / not just make money, / help people, / so I

B Which sentences ...

- present the main idea?
- give information to support the main idea?
- provide a conclusion.

3 Write two paragraphs about a change in your life. Use the paragraph plan for ideas. Write 80–100 words.

Plan your writing

- Think about the life change you are going to write about.
- What was it?
- Try to use some of the phrases below:
One of the best decisions I ever made was ...
I wanted to ..., so I ...
Before that, I used to ...
For example, I ...
Because I didn't ...
So I went ...
Now, I ...

Check your writing

- Do you have a main idea in each paragraph with information to support it?
- Have you finished or concluded each paragraph?
- Have you checked your grammar and spelling?
- Did you find any mistakes?