**Paragraph –Definition - Elements**

**I. Topic Sentence**

A group of sentences together discussing one main topic is called a Paragraph. One of the main essential elements of the Paragraph is Topic sentence. The topic sentence is the first sentence in a paragraph. It introduces the main idea of the paragraph.

**Exa**mple: **Canada is one of the best countries in the world to live in.**

**II. Supporting Sentences (Details)**

The supporting sentences come after the topic sentence, making up the body of a

paragraph. They give details to develop and support the main idea of the paragraph.

You should give supporting *facts, details, and examples*.

**Example:**

**First,** Canada has an *excellent health care system*.

All Canadians have access to medical services at a reasonable price.

**Second,** Canada has a *high standard of education*. Students are taught by well‐trained teachers and are encouraged to continue studying at university.

**Finally**, Canada's *cities are clean* and efficiently managed. Canadian cities have *many parks* and lots of space for people to live.

**III. Closing Sentence**

The closing sentence is the last sentence in a paragraph. It restates the main idea of your paragraph.

using different words.

**Example**: As a result, Canada is a desirable place to live.

**Characteristics of Good Paragraph**

**Coherence:** Coherence in writing means that all the ideas in a paragraph flow smoothly from one sentence to the next sentence. With coherence, the reader has an easy time understanding the ideas that you wish to express.

**Cohesion: The supporting sentences connect to each other and to the topic sentence. Use Cohesive Devices /Connectors.**

**Ex : and, but, so, when, in addition,**

**Unity:** Unity means that one paragraph is about only ONE main topic. That is, all the sentences -- the Topic, supporting sentences, the detail sentences, and (sometimes) the concluding sentence -- are all telling the reader about ONE main topic. If your paragraph contains a sentence or some sentences that are NOT related to the main topic, then we say that the paragraph "lacks unity,"

**Canada is one of the best countries in the world to live in. First, Canada has an excellent health care system. All Canadians have access to medical services at a reasonable price. Second, Canada has a high standard of education. Students are taught by well‐trained teachers and are encouraged to continue studying at university. Finally, Canada's cities are clean and efficiently managed. Canadian cities have many parks and lots of space for people to live. As a result, Canada is a desirable place to live.**