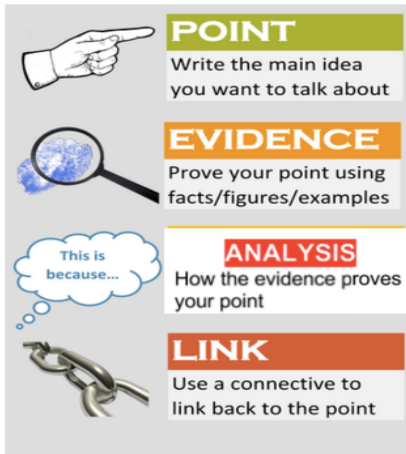


The PEAL Paragraph for Analytical Writing



PEAL Paragraphing is a formulaic structure for writing. It is a strategy used by Harvard's Project Zero "Visible Thinking Routines" to help young writers craft well-developed and focused paragraphs. It is simple and effective.

Good writers have a toolbox of techniques to tackle different writing tasks.

Today you will practice. Here is a link of an [8th Grade Student Practicing the PEAL](#) method.

PHASE 1, the basics of writing the PEAL:

- ☐ Turn the question being asked into a statement or **POINT**. You can use the exact words in the question as part of the response you make.
- ☐ Use [transitions](#) to connect the thinking and examples. Remember, these transitions need a comma after they are used. Use a transition to begin the **E**, the **A**, and the **L** of the PEAL paragraph.
- ☐ Identify one-two pieces of **EVIDENCE** from the text to support your example.
- ☐ **ANALYZE** the examples to show how they prove the **POINT**. (This is the longest section and requires critical and original thinking.)
- ☐ **LINK** the reader back to the POINT to remind him/her your main idea. This is also often called the 'concluding sentence'.

PHASE 2, moving the writing from good to great:

- ☐ Now read the paragraph draft through and change two-three weak words and make them more lively, persuasive, and/or sophisticated. Make sure the words are spread out and not all in one sentence. Here is an easy online tool for this: <http://www.thesaurus.com/>
- ☐ Cite your evidence with academic phrases like: *In the beginning of the text the writer states: " _____ ", which clearly proves the point that _____ .*
- ☐ Check to make sure that you have used academic, objective point of view to show expertise. Remember, we know already that you are writing it, so personal pronouns are redundant. Switch out any "me", "my", or "I" usage from the paragraph and replace with "one" or "we" or "the public" or "the reader" or things of that nature.

☐ Read the paragraph aloud to check for any typos or errors. Install [Grammarly](#) into Google Chrome to help. The strategy of reading your draft aloud allows your ear to hear mistakes that your eyes might automatically self-correct.

Here is an example of a student working through the PEAL method. This student has completed 3 PEAL paragraphs of 6. She has color coded the paragraph for herself and her peer editor. She is trying to write in objective point of view, present tense, and prove her point with cited evidence.

Pink is the P(oint)

Green is is the E(vidence)

Red is the A(nalysis)

Blue is the L(ink)

(works cited in this paragraph is at the end)

Question #5. How do you feel about the fact that Anne's diary was published, considering the numerous very personal passages and harsh criticisms of people who later died? Otto Frank originally edited the diary to remove such sensitive portions. Do you think these sections should be edited out or that the diary as a whole should be available? Is this censorship?

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl contains many different explicit and personal passages. Nonetheless, Anne Frank must of known that this will be published due to the fact that shortly after she has written her first formal entries, she has started to add comments to her previous written entries which commonly glorifies the person she has criticised. For example, Anne commented on a previous entry: "Daddy's always so nice. He understands me perfectly, and I wish we could have a heart-to-heart talk sometime without my bursting instantly into tears" (Frank, 29). This comment was added after she criticized a few people. As mentioned, a lot of different books have been banned and/or censored by school, districts, countries even. The Guardian has written an article about a group of parents wanting to make the diary banned from their school program: "It's inappropriate for a teacher to be giving this material out to the kids when it's really the parents' job to give the students this information." She has now launched a formal complaint process asking for the unexpurgated version of the diary to be removed from the school, which is currently under review" (The Guardian, 2013). Anne's comment clearly shows how she appreciates the people around her, although her formally written entries show criticism and hatred towards a person. Anne sees Kitty (the person she addresses these entries to) as a friend, and uses her as an outlet for her emotions. With the comment written above, and the different comments added throughout the entries, she pays her respects to them at different moments. One must see Anne as an irritable teenager who has no sign of recognition towards her peers, one must understand that Kitty is seen as a dear friend to Anne, and that a dear friend means that there might be no slight boundary to their conversations and/or secrecy. How Anne describes the anatomy of the body, sex, and things of such topic might be inappropriate for their audience. As read further on in the article, it is mentioning different

organizations which are making sure that the diary is not being censored: the district is being urged not to ban the book by the Kids' Right to Read Project, part of the National Coalition Against Censorship, as well as by Frank publisher Bantam Books, the National Council of Teachers of English and PEN America, among others. The organisations have come together to write to the school district, saying that Anne Frank's diary is "both relevant to today's students and pedagogically valuable", and that to "remove the book potentially violates the constitutional rights of other students and parents"” (The Guardian, 2013). As the article states, the diary is meant to give the true side of being a teenager going through these harsh times, one should honor Anne Frank and not take away what she has spent so much time on. For this reason, *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* does have explicit content at parts, yet Anne Frank writes this diary to show the true side of what it is to be a teenager to go through this. We, the audience, take the form of Kitty as her trusted best friend, we need to honor Anne Frank.

WORKS CITED:

Flood, Alison. "Anne Frank's Diary in US Schools Censorship Battle." *The Guardian*. Guardian News and Media, 2013. Web. 01 Mar. 2016.

Frank, Anne, Otto Frank, Mirjam Pressler, and Susan Massotty. *The Diary of a Young Girl: The Definitive Edition*. Print.