

Body Paragraph Template

If you follow the below, you'll have a very short paragraph. Flesh it out with details, examples, personal experience, background, context... whatever your paragraph calls for!

Topic Sentence (a reason for believing your thesis):

Introduce [evidence](#) #1 (Who is speaking? What background do we need to know?)

Evidence #1 (use proper [MLA](#)):

Discussion of evidence #1 (how does this evidence support your thesis?):

Take a moment to [transition](#) to your next piece of evidence (also, in addition, secondly, etc):

Introduce evidence #2 (Who is speaking? What background do we need to know?)

Evidence #2 (in proper MLA):

Discussion of evidence #2 (how does this evidence support your thesis?):

Concluding sentence stating what we should have learned from the paragraph OR transitioning to the next body paragraph (or both!):

Example Body Paragraph

Thesis: the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission should enact policies to prohibit the harassment of Canada Geese in public parks as a deterrent because we are responsible for reintroducing this species, it is an ineffective solution, **and there are other options.**

Body paragraph 3: **Third, in addition to temporary scare tactics, there are more permanent, long-term solutions.** One of the reasons the geese continue to return after being scared off is landscaping. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, which studies birds at Cornell University, explains that Canada Geese "are particularly drawn to lawns for two reasons: they can digest grass, and when they are feeding with their young, manicured lawns give them a wide, unobstructed view of any approaching predators" (Jirsa). Our lush, landscaped lawns are alluring to these birds, so in order

to deter Canada geese permanently, we should focus on responsible landscaping and change the habitat of parks, using bushes, shrubs, and fencing to block views. Another, more permanent solution to deter Canada Geese being used is called egg oiling or "addling", which the Humane Society says "commonly refers to any process by which an egg ceases to be viable. Eggs can be humanely addled by oiling, removing from the nest, or replacing with dummy eggs" (*Humane Society*). This manageable solution causes the eggs to not hatch and therefore the population is controlled for that particular season. Any of these options are much better solutions than harassing wildlife in our parks.

Note that evidence in the above paragraph has been introduced, discussed, and cited in proper MLA.