

5 Paragraph Essay Notes and Examples

MLA Heading

Jane Doe

Instructor Name

Course Title

Day Month Year

How Young is Too Young to Date? (title)

Opening/Thesis Example

For your introduction, make sure you introduce your thesis. This can be done anecdotally, with supporting evidence, or an opening “monologue”. As long as your thesis is the final sentence and includes your 3 points that you wish to expound upon.

16 is a critical age in a child’s development. Most 16-year-olds are able to be gainfully employed for the first time, receive their driver's license, and are often making preparations for college. In addition to personal opportunities for growth, 16-year-olds are often broaching into the dating world. As they matriculate through puberty, many teens wish to begin dating and developing more intimate relationships with their peers. **I think that 16 is an appropriate age for kids to start dating because it allows them to develop their emotional maturity, social skills, and help with becoming more responsible.** (Your thesis always goes at the end of your opening paragraph).

Topic Sentence/Body Paragraph Example- 3 Body Paragraphs

Writing body paragraphs can be formulaic. Your topic sentence is the first sentence in your paragraph. This should be followed by a personal claim regarding your topic sentence. Then, include a source that supports your claim. After including the source, make sure you explain the source’s relevance to your claim. You then would conclude with a summarization of the paragraph and your claims.

1. Topic sentence.

2. Personal claim.

3. Source.

4. Explanation of source.

5. Summarization of paragraph.

Most young people assume relationships are based on hugs, kisses, and holding hands when in reality, there is much more to intimacy. Unfortunately, many teens get warped impressions of

what intimacy really is due to social media and television. Dating expert Leslie Shore states that, “the time we spend on social media can affect our ability to communicate with those we care about” (Savoie). This shows that too much social media can cloud the judgment of what a teen can expect while developing an intimate relationship with a partner. Teens should use discernment when dating, and rely on interpersonal communication skills with their partner, rather than relying on dogmatic expectations that often lurk on social media.

Conclusion Example

The conclusion summarizes your argument in one final, cohesive paragraph. There are many different approaches to writing a conclusion. You can use anecdotal evidence, sources evidence, or a simple rephrasing of your thesis. This paragraph should touch on your thesis and hammer home any significant claims you have made throughout the essay.

Dating at 16 is a risky proposition. While 16 is a critical age of development for teens, in regards to gaining a drivers license, working, and school, it is difficult for someone that age to handle the emotional rigors of dating. Dating at that age requires a mature approach to intimacy, and being able to navigate certain situations as they arise. Dating at this age also could distract students from long term goals, such as pursuing college and becoming gainfully employed.

Works Cited

Your works cited section should begin immediately after your conclusion. Two spaces down is an appropriate amount of space to have between your conclusion and works cited. For MLA citation questions, [Purdue Online Writing Lab](https://www.purdue.edu/owl/) is an excellent source to consult.

Savoie, Gabrielle. “A Relationship Expert Explains How Social Media Affects Your Love Life.” *Brides*, Brides, 9 May 2021, <https://www.brides.com/how-social-media-affects-relationships-5105350>.