Formal Paragraph Structure

**Intro**

Opening statement/intro/hook

* Grab their attention
* Introduce your topic

Main idea (topic sentence)

* Clearly state what you will be discussing
* Title, author, main point
* List 3 points briefly

**Body**

(transition) – to begin, to commence, one way \_\_\_\_\_ is shown is…

Point 1 – state one thing that support your main idea (first thing from your list)

Proof 1 – quotation or specific example from the text that supports Point 1

Explanation 1 – how your proof supports your main idea

* Include an argumentative word (proving, demonstrating…)
* And key words from your main idea

(trans) – furthermore, in continuation, in addition, additionally

Point 2

Proof 2

Explanation 2

(trans)

Point 3

Proof 3

Expl 3

(trans) – in summary, in conclusion, to conclude

Conclusion – (backwards main idea) – summarize 3 points – restate main point – closing idea

Formal paragraphs:

* No contractions or first person (can’t 🡪 cannot) (I 🡪 one)
* MLA citation “(author pg) “…” (MacCleod 75).
* Quotations integrated – his mother said, “…….” (MacCleod 75).