

Label the sentences in each paragraph using TEEC.

A Coordinate Paragraph

A coordinate paragraph is basically a topic sentence with a list of sentences following, each developing from the topic sentence, and each at the same basic level of specificity. Here's an example:

Good students develop good study habits. They take good notes when they read. They do the readings before class, and visit office hours to ask questions. They start assignments early and don't procrastinate. They make connections between the things they learn from different classes. These habits enable good students to succeed now and in the future.

A Subordinate Paragraph

In a subordinate, or step paragraph, each sentence develops a greater level of specificity relative to the sentence just before it. It explains the point before it.

Good students develop good study habits. They take good notes while they read, and in class. They usually have a specific format for taking notes, so that their notes are clear and readable. For example, they date their note pages, and number them, and leave room for definitions or questions. They may write definitions or questions in different color ink, or in pencil, so that they'll be easy to spot when it's time to review for classes. These habits enable good students to succeed now and in the future.

Mixed Sequence/Combination Paragraph

A mixed sequence paragraph mixes the strategy of listing with the strategy of coordinating, and voila, you actually get a reasonably interesting paragraph. Ready for an example? Here goes:

Good students develop good study habits. They take good notes while they read, and in class. They usually have a specific format for taking notes, so that their notes are clear and readable. For example, they date their note pages, and number them, and leave room for definitions or questions. They may write definitions or questions in different color ink, or in pencil, so that they'll be easy to spot when it's time to review for classes. Good students also review their notes after each class while the material's fresh in their mind. After reviewing, they visit professors in office hours to ask questions. Asking questions gives them a chance to make sure they understand the material fully. Good students start early on assignments, and avoid procrastination. When they write essays, they take time to brainstorm, do necessary research, and get help from a tutor. Starting early gives them time to draft and revise, and helps them write much better papers. These habits enable good students to succeed now and in the future.

Another Example.

Without a doubt, my Serotta Colorado III bicycle is the possession I prize most. Firstly, it's a beautiful machine. The dark, iridescent blue is complemented with the gleaming silver finish of a Campagnolo Chorus group set. The blue and silver compliment each other like sky and cloud. Not only does it look good, though; it's the most comfortable ride I've ever had. All the rolling parts offer very little resistance, so the bike seems to glide effortlessly over the pavement. In addition, the proportions of the frame allow for me to be perfectly positioned over the handlebars and pedals. The end result of all this beauty and efficiency is a really fast bike. The light, steel frame is so responsive, it demands very little energy to accelerate and propel it forward and up, over Mt Hamilton, Quimby Road, and someday--God willing--l'Alpe d'Huez itself. I can barely ride with anybody else in fear of leaving them behind and having to waste precious riding time waiting for them. People ask me when I'm going to get a new bike, but I've got the bike I want!