

Academic language paragraph frames

Paragraph Frame for Scaffolding Comparing

_____ and _____ are similar in several ways. They both _____. They also _____. Furthermore, each _____. Because of these similarities, we can _____.

However, _____ and _____ differ in some key areas. First, _____, whereas _____. In addition, _____. In contrast, _____. These differences help us to see _____.

Paragraph Frames for Scaffolding classifying and categorizing

I

It is helpful to place the _____, _____, and _____ in the same group. They have important commonalities such as _____. Likewise, the _____ and _____ belong together because they _____. However, the _____ is distinct because it _____. We need to create a new category for it, such as _____.

II

We believe that the most important aspect of _____ is its _____. It is vital because _____. Another important aspect is _____ because it _____. Then again, some minor details, such as _____ and _____ are hardly worth mentioning.

Paragraph Frames for scaffolding cause and effect

The cause of _____ is not obvious as we are led to think. Even though many people think the cause was _____, I believe that the main cause was _____. First, _____. Second, _____. Therefore, if I am correct, then we must _____.

The effects of _____ are significant because _____. First, we have the _____. Though some people simply think this is just a coincidence, I believe it is more. For example, consider _____. In addition, _____. Because of these arguments, we should at least begin to _____.

Paragraph Frame for Scaffolding Problem Solving

The problem of _____ really boils down to the issue of _____ . In the past, the common solution was to _____ . However, this is ineffective because _____ . I propose several other options that might work. First, they could _____ . This would _____ . Second, they could _____ . Finally, even though it is costly, they could _____ . This solution is ideal because it _____ . These possible solutions are worth considering and testing if we are to solve this issue in the near future.

Paragraph Frames for scaffolding persuasion

I

Do you want a world with _____ ? This is what will happen if _____ . For years, _____ . Unfortunately, they/we have failed to realize that _____ . Therefore, I propose that _____ . This will _____ . Furthermore, it will _____ . Opponents, of course, argue that this solution _____ . These limitations are real, but greatly exaggerated because _____ . Some also propose to _____ . Yet this is not desirable because _____ . Ultimately we must decide what we value. I and many others believe that we should place a higher value on _____ than _____ . For this reason, we should _____ .

II

The time has arrived for us to _____ . Why? Because _____ . Some say that _____ . They are motivated by _____ . They also argue that _____ . On the contrary, such solutions only serve to _____ . In the long term, our solution will be more effective because _____ .

Paragraph Frame for Scaffolding Empathizing

_____ (person) _____ responded to the _____ by _____ . If I were _____ (person) _____ , I would have reacted to the situation differently. I would have _____ because _____ . In addition, I would have _____ .

I am _____ object/animal _____ . I enjoy _____ . I like to spend time with _____ . Sometimes I get in trouble when I _____ . I never _____ because _____ . Other _____ objects/animals _____ envy me because they _____ .

If we consider the time and events through which _____ lived, we can better understand him/her. I argue that he/she wasn't as _____ as many people think. Rather, because of _____, he/she became more _____. This is evidenced when he/she says, "_____."

Paragraph Frame for Scaffolding Synthesizing

In order to gain a proper perspective on the issue of _____, we must synthesize information from the following sources: _____, _____, and _____. The first source claims that _____ and uses _____ as its evidence. This is valid, but may not be strong enough to _____. The second source, _____, reported that _____. This implies that _____. Finally, the third source offers the most compelling argument, which is _____. The evidence is _____. Therefore, even though many conflicting views on this issue exist, a synthesis of these three sources strongly suggests that _____. Further research down the road, of course, may change all this.

Paragraph frames for scaffolding interpreting

I
The author of this article was clearly biased in favor of _____. S/he tried to influence us to _____ by using persuasive techniques such as _____. S/he conveniently omitted important evidence such as _____. And even her/his language is used as a tool to sway us. For example, s/he uses the word "_____" instead of "_____."

II
On the surface, _____ was a _____ story about a _____. Yet I believe the author uses the story to teach readers a deeper lesson about _____. For instance, when the main character, _____, proceeded to _____, this showed "_____" this implied that _____. Also, when _____ said, "_____" this implied that _____. Finally, _____

III
People are basically _____. This aspect of human nature is reflected in the novel _____, by _____, in which the protagonist _____. At various points during the story, s/he _____. For example, near the beginning, s/he _____. Later s/he says, "_____." This shows that _____. Not only is this nature evident in the novel, but it is found in life as well. For example, _____

Paragraph Frames for Scaffolding Evaluating

I
Before we blindly head down the road of _____, we must evaluate the decision to _____. First of all, it will mean that _____ . Research shows that _____ . Second, the decision meets the criterion of _____, but not that of _____. Finally, we must consider the ethics of the issue. Is it right to _____? Does the _____ outweigh the _____? Further research and dialog will perhaps get us closer to the answers.

II
Should we _____. I believe we should _____. A decision of this magnitude needs to meet several important criteria for. The first criterion is _____. What I propose meets this criterion because _____. Second, (my side) meets the criterion of _____ by _____. Finally, even though the opposing side does _____, my proposed solution has a greater chance of _____.

Paragraph frames for scaffolding academic communication

I. For connecting literature to life

“_____,” says _____. This quotation on page _____ captures the essence of the present-day situation regarding _____. Though many might downplay its importance, we must consider _____. It is similar to _____. If _____, then _____. Therefore, _____.

II. For summarizing a chapter

Chapter _____ is about _____. It takes place _____ is an important character in this chapter because _____. S/he is _____ because _____. Another character is _____. S/he is _____. The action starts in this chapter when _____. After that, _____ and _____. Finally, _____.

Paragraph Frames for Scaffolding Applying

I. Response to article

I recently read the article _____ by _____ in _____. I became deeply concerned about the way in which _____. I believe that it is a violation of human rights and I plan to take action. First, rather than simply _____, I plan to _____. This will ensure that _____. Then I plan to _____ because there will be a need to _____. Finally, I think that I will _____. By taking these steps, we might begin to solve this problem.

II. Response to story

In the story _____, by _____
_____, I was particularly struck by the main character's
_____. It was powerful because I
have had similar experiences. For instance, I _____
_____. However, I did not
react the same way. Whereas I _____,
the main character _____
_____. I think the character handled it better than I
did because _____. In the future I plan to
_____.