

**APSU Writing Center**  
Paragraph Formatting P.I.E

**How to format a paragraph**

- For every claim you make in your paragraph, include supporting evidence. All pieces of writing need to include an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.
- A strategy to follow involves the acronym PIE which stands for...



○ **P - Point**

- The main idea or point that the paragraph is going to make. Includes a topic sentence and gives direction for the following sentences.
  - What are you trying to tell your audience?

○ **I - Illustration or Information**

- The Illustration or Information includes supporting evidence to back up the main point. It can include facts, quotes, paraphrases, statistics, and more.

○ **E - Explanation**

- The explanation tells the audience why each piece of information is included in the paragraph. It can only work when the illustration and the point are connected.

<b>P</b>	Point or statement that gives directions:
<b>I</b>	Information or evidence that supports the point:
<b>E</b>	Explanation that wraps up the quote:



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### References

Bryan Writing Center. (2023). *Using P.I.E.* Blinn College. <https://www.blinn.edu/writing-centers/pdfs/Using-P.I.E.pdf>.

Geary, M. (2016). *PIE Format*. Bristol Writing Center. [https://bristolcc.edu/media/pie\\_format.pdf](https://bristolcc.edu/media/pie_format.pdf).

Las Positas Writing Center. (2023). *Writing Body Paragraphs*. Las Positas College. <https://www.laspositascollege.edu/raw/bodyparagraphs.php>.