**PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE BASICS**

**TOPIC SENTENCE:**

Introduce your topic by clearly stating what it is & what points you’re going to discuss in your paragraph.

Ex. Ponyboy is a round character with three important traits. OR

I have several­­­­­­­ important influences on my personal identity.

**BODY SENTENCES:**

Discuss your points. Do NOT just list them off. Start with the first one and include reasons, examples, facts about it. Then you move to the next ones and do the same.

Make sure you include transition words/phrases between each point.

Ex. Another…/In addition,…/On the other hand…/Finally…

**CONCLUDING SENTENCE:**

Finish off your paragraph with a concluding sentence. Remind the reader of your topic. Link back to your topic sentence. Leave the reader thinking about the topic in some way. Sum up your points in a new way.

Ex. Ponyboy is a complex character that shows that he is loyal, compassionate, and brave. OR

My identity is unique to me and is constantly changing because it is made from the people I interact with and all of my experiences that I have learned from. Even though this is who I am now, I know I will be a different version of me in the future: me 2.0.

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| **Parts of a Paragraph** | Write your paragraph elements here: |
| **INTRODUCTION**:  Hook:  Topic Sentence: |  |
| **BODY:**  Point:  Evidence:  Explain:  (repeat “PEE” for each additional point)  P.2  Ev.2  Ex.2 |  |
| **CONCLUSION:**  Concluding  sentence(s): |  |