

# Schaffer Writing Model

## Step 1: The Body Paragraph

# Topic Sentence

- 1<sup>st</sup> sentence of a body paragraph
- Says what the paragraph will be about
- General statement, not a specific detail
- Usually makes a claim (something to be proven)
- TS

# Concrete Detail

- Fact, example, quotation, story, etc.
- Can be proven or found
- Often begins with “for example”
- Additional concrete details need to be introduced with transitions
- CD

# Examples of Concrete Details

- For example, Mrs. Meeching is always wearing black.
- Another example is that Mrs. Meeching is called “cold.”
- Finally, even the sound of her name, Meeching, is unpleasant.
- For example, in seventh grade I made a C in math.
- Also, when we would play family games, my brothers would never let me keep score.
- Worst of all, in college, I was put into a remedial algebra class that was made up of the football team and me.

# Commentary

- Your analysis, opinion, or explanation of the concrete detail
- Opinion
- “this shows that” / “this is important because”
- Should take more than one sentence of commentary to explain
- CM

# Examples of commentary

- This shows that the author probably chose Mrs. Meeching's name in order to give us a clue about her creepiness.
- Her name is used as foreshadowing because it makes us realize that she is scary even before she actually does anything.

# Concluding Sentence

- Sums up the entire paragraph
- Has the same idea as the topic sentence but in different words
- A general statement, not a concrete detail
- CS

# Chunk

- CD plus CM together

# Basic Body Paragraph Outline

1. Topic sentence (TS)
  2. Concrete Detail (CD)
  3. Commentary (CM)
  4. Commentary (CM)
  5. Concrete Detail (CD)
  6. Commentary (CM)
  7. Commentary (CM)
  8. Concluding Sentence (CS)
- 
- Diagram illustrating the structure of a basic body paragraph outline, showing two chunks of content:
- Chunk One: Items 2, 3, and 4 (Concrete Detail, Commentary, Commentary).
  - Chunk Two: Items 5, 6, and 7 (Concrete Detail, Commentary, Commentary).