**Types of Paragraphs**

Narrative Paragraph

* In a narrative paragraph, you share a memorable event, a short story, or an important experience
* The details should answer the 5 W’s (who, what, where, when, why) about the event
* Use your “voice”

Descriptive Paragraph

* In a descriptive paragraph, you give a clear, detailed picture of one person, place, or object
* Use vivid images

Expository Paragraph

* In this type of paragraph, you share information
* You can explain a subject, give directions, or show how to do something
* Transitions are used for a smooth flow of ideas

Persuasive Paragraph

* With this type of paragraph, you give your opinion about a topic
* To be persuasive (or to convince), you must include plenty of facts and details to support your opinion (“sugar doughnuts”=specific details)
* Use plenty of mature transitions

**Topic Sentence**

Every paragraph must have a topic sentence. You need to let your reader know the main idea for that specific paragraph. You can then organize the rest of the paragraph around your topic sentence. Ask yourself, “What is the main point I am trying to make in this paragraph?” Your topic sentence should be the answer to this question.

**“Sugar Doughnuts” (Specific Details)**

No paragraph is complete without effective facts and details that support your topic sentence. Some of this information may come from personal knowledge and memories. However, you will often refer to books, magazines, websites, and experts for the facts you need. Give a SPECIFIC statement, then write a DETAIL about it.

**Personal Details (some examples)**

* **Sensory details** are the things you see, hear, smell, taste and touch (especially important in descriptive paragraphs…these help you create vivid images).
* **Memory details** are things you remember from past experiences.
* **Reflective details** are things you think about or hope for.