

Developing Supporting Paragraphs for an Analysis Essay

Outline:

S subject: Topic Sentence. The paragraph’s purpose/argument	
E (explain your point)	
E (evidence/examples to back up your explanation)	<i>For example....</i>
L (link your evidence and examples back to your statement/topic sentence and explain WHY it all matters)	

Example:

S subject: Topic Sentence. The paragraph’s purpose/argument	Carraway’s word choice develops a sense of doubt within this concluding passage from Chapter 5, which allows the narrator to demonstrate each characters’ sense of uncertainty within this moment and which develops the incongruity that exist between the idea of the situation and its reality.
E (explain your point. Here, I am angling the paragraph to make the point referencing the significance of Gatsby – paragraph A for Point II).	First, the details that Carraway use to portray Gatsby in particular help to establish Gatsby as a classical tragic figure who is willfully blinded by the reality of the situation that stares him in the face.
E (evidence/examples to back up your explanation)	For example, Carraway states that Gatsby “had thrown himself into [the situation] with a creative passion...decking it out with every bright feather that drifted his way” (101) despite the fact that it was clear from the expression Carraway stated that Gatsby wore on his face expressed a “doubt had occurred to him as to the quality of [Gatsby’s] present happiness” (101). Carraway concludes his observation by remarking that “[n]o amount of fire or freshness can challenge what a man will store up in his ghostly heart” (101).
L (link your evidence and examples back to your statement/topic sentence and explain WHY it all matters)	Gatsby’s arrogance in the face of reality is clear here, as his his willful refusal to see things for what they are. This alone helps to portray Gatsby as a typical tragic character. That Carraway punctuates this with an emphasis on the things Gatsby hides from that resides in his own “ghostly heart” is interesting. The fact that he states that line in such a generalized way (a “man” in general) may reveal a subconscious identification that what makes Gatsby a tragic figure also resides in Carraway’s own heart.