

Perfect Paragraph Writing

Each of your literary analysis paragraphs should be crafted in a similar structure. They should begin with a thesis statement about the character (plot / setting / conflict / theme). You should take a point of view and answer a 'how' or 'why' question. The body of your paragraph should contain a minimum of three examples from the text that support your thesis statement. Lastly, you should end your paragraph restating or echoing your original thesis statement.

- Thesis statement
- Example 1
- Example 2
- Example 3
- Echo your thesis statement

Parts of Perfect Paragraph

You will notice that the example paragraph has been colour-coded to help you visually see each required element. Here is what each colour represents:

Thesis and Echo = Red

First Example = Blue

Second Example = Orange

Third Example = Purple

Transitional Words = Green

Quotes and Page Citations = Black

Character Analysis Paragraph Example

- Book: *Lord of the Flies*
- Author: William Golding
- Character: Roger

Example of a Perfect Paragraph

Roger and the Nature of Cruelty

In Lord of the Flies, the character Roger starts out unkind and then he grows crueler as the story progresses. Early in the story, he shows unkindness when he passes through the sand castles of the little'uns and "kicking them over, burying [the boys'] flowers" (p. 60) as he uncaringly made his way to the water. Then he throws stones at one of the young boys from behind a tree, but because he still has a conscience, he misses with the stones. Then, later in the story, during the hunt, he is much crueler. When killing the pig, he puts the spear in "inch by inch" despite the pig's "terrified squealing" (p. 135). After the killing, he boasts about the disgusting place he put his spear. This shows his shift because he is not satisfied with hunting for food, but he hunts with the desire to be cruel. Finally, he throws a spear at Ralph, and then he advances on Samneric to beat them, "wielding a nameless authority" (p. 182). This authority comes from his willingness to use cruel and brutal force; he no longer has a conscience. Thus, Roger is the character in the novel that becomes completely cruel, and so his movement from bully on the beach to violent beater of children demonstrates how cruelty can grow in a person.