

Writing a Powerful Essay



Samples of what to
include and what to avoid.



The Introduction

Three parts:

1. General Intro/Hook
2. Thesis
3. Sneak Preview



The Introduction

Is this a good introductory paragraph?

In the movie Awakenings, Dr. Sayer is an incredibly dedicated doctor and he would likely support the operation conducted on Charlie Gordon in the story, "Flowers for Algernon".



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Think of a single sentence "paragraph" as an orphan; the baby needs parents!



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↑
THIS IS A THESIS STATEMENT.



The Introduction

Let's add more!

In the movie Awakenings, Dr. Sayer is an incredibly dedicated doctor and he would likely support the operation conducted on Charlie Gordon in the story, "Flowers for Algernon". In fact, Dr. Sayer proved himself to be a very caring person, only wanting the best for his patients and it is certain that he would support helping Charlie Gordon to become more intelligent and to reach his potential.



The Introduction

Let's add more!

THE FIRST LINE IS STILL TOO SPECIFIC. ALSO, IT IS BORING.

In the movie Awakenings, Dr. Sayer is an incredibly dedicated doctor and he would likely support the operation conducted on Charlie Gordon in the story, "Flowers for Algernon". In fact, Dr. Sayer proved himself to be a very caring person, only wanting the best for his patients and it is certain that he would support helping Charlie Gordon to become more intelligent and to reach his potential.



The Introduction

One of the foundational principles for medical doctors is *primum non nocere*; this is a Latin phrase meaning, "First, do no harm." When considering an operation of any magnitude for a patient, doctors must keep this oath in mind. In the movie Awakenings, Dr. Sayer is an incredibly dedicated doctor and he would likely support the operation conducted on Charlie Gordon in the story, "Flowers for Algernon" because he would likely have believed that the outcome would have greatly benefited Charlie. While working with Leonard, Dr. Sayer proved himself to be a very caring person, only wanting the best for his patients and it is certain that he would support helping Charlie Gordon to become more intelligent and to reach his potential.



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Now we need a sneak preview of our three main ideas.



The Introduction

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Ordering Your Paragraphs

What is the best order to place your paragraphs?



Ordering Your Paragraphs

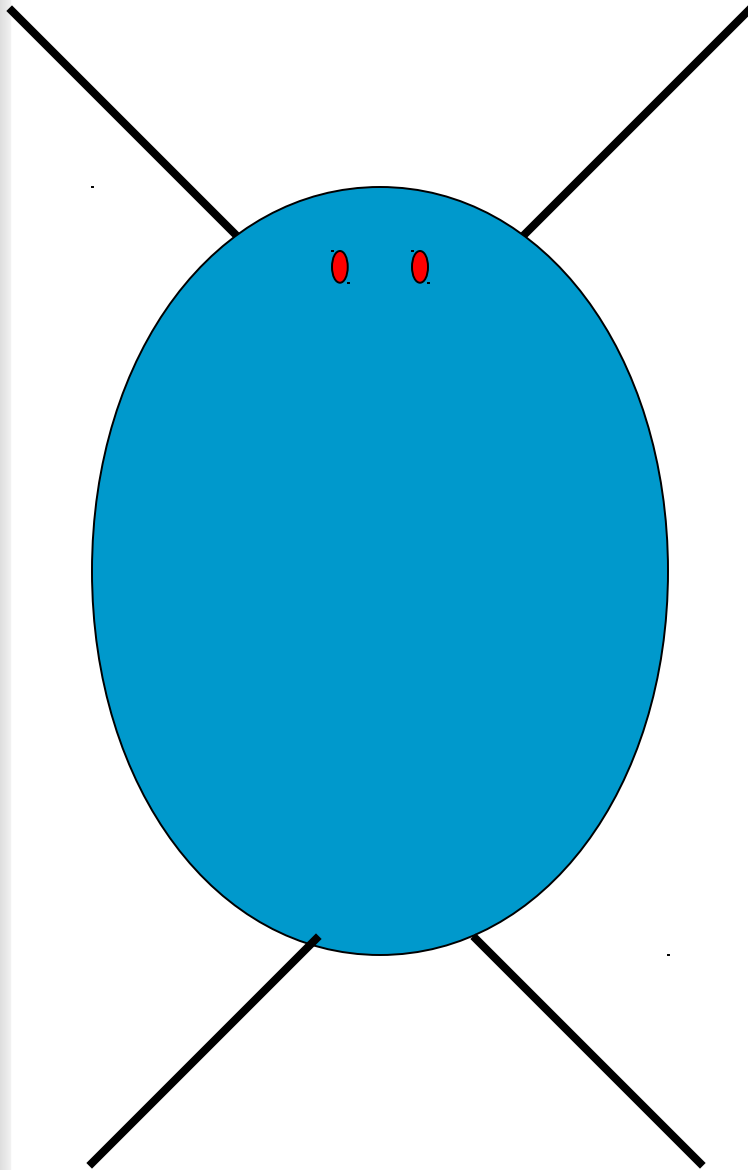
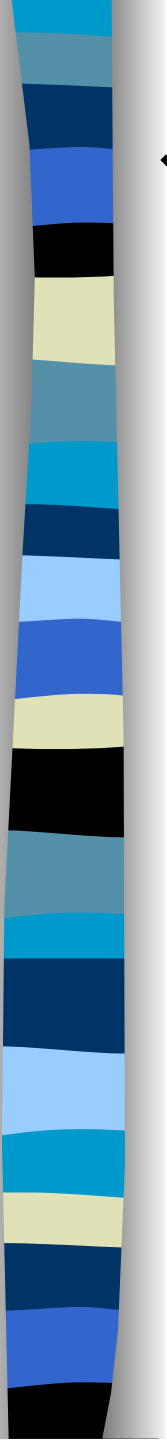
What is the best order to place your paragraphs?

1. **Second Strongest Point**
2. **Third Strongest Point**
3. **Strongest Point**



Connecting Your Ideas

- Use Transitions to connect your ideas
- Integrate your quotations



Introduction

- General to specific

Body

- Well rounded defense

Conclusion

- Specific to general



The Body

Three parts:

1. Topic Sentence
2. Evidence
3. Explanation and Analysis

The Body

Think of yourself as a defense lawyer. You must prove your points beyond a reasonable doubt.





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