

# The Perfect Paragraph

## (TS) Topic Sentence (claim, assertion):

- Everything in the paragraph must relate to this idea (umbrella)
- Relates directly to the thesis (5 paragraph essay)
- No quotes
- Trick: rewrite the question

## (CD) Concrete Detail: Evidence (data, evidence):

- Concrete detail- quotes, facts, paraphrase, hard evidence
- Be sure to build a sentence around your evidence, don't just stick them in without any introduction.
- One must be a quote
- In-text citation (author #). - no comma

## (CM) Commentary, warrant, analysis, reasoning

- Analysis, analysis, analysis!!!
- How does the evidence support the topic sentence?
- 2-3 sentences follow each piece of evidence
- Avoid plot summary
- Answer the WHY?
- Think annotations

## (CS) Concluding Sentence:

- Wrap up your thoughts without being repetitive
- Transition to next topic (body paragraph 1&2 in an essay)

## **Perfect Paragraph Format/Highlighting color (on your exam!):**

- TS - thesis, claim, assertion, topic sentence (Yellow)
- CD 1- evidence, concrete detail, data (Green)
- CM - commentary, warrant, analysis (Pink)
- CM - at least 2 sentences (Pink)
- CD 2 - paragraph must have 2- one must be a quote (Green)
- CM - always follow evidence with analysis (Pink)
- CM - at least 2-3 sentences (Pink)
- CS/T - concluding or transitional (Yellow)