

Writing the First Body Paragraph of the Influential Person Essay

FORMAT

11 to 14 sentences in length

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| 1. Topic Sentence | 1 sentence | State the topic of the paragraph. Be sure to use a transition and include the overall topic of the essay. |
| 2. Supporting evidence <u>(X3)</u> | 3 – 4 sentences | State each piece of supporting evidence using sensory details and specific examples. Tie in how the person has influenced you. |
| 3. Closing Sentence | 1 sentence | Sum up the point presented in the paragraph. |

SAMPLE BODY PARAGRAPH

Mrs. Betty is one of the most hard-working and devoted in her work than anyone I have ever met which is part of why Mrs. Betty is my hero. To start off Mrs. Betty who opened the studio in 1983 has spent almost every day at the studio for about 11 hours. I have seen her in the studio as we drive by on the day after Christmas to visit my grandparents on Cape Cod, working on new steps. To prove how hardworking she has many accomplishments. She graduated from Northeastern University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education and high honors. She was past-president of both Dance Masters of America and Dance Teachers of Boston. She has taught many masters classes in New York, Boston and San Francisco. The unique quality that stands out most to me about Mrs. Betty is that she is not afraid to stand up to what is right. Mrs. Betty used to work as a public school teacher in Maryland where dancing was prohibited. Mrs. Betty worked to change this. She herself wrote to the governor of Maryland at that time and with her persuasion, dignity, and pride, Mrs. Betty received two federal mini-grants to introduce the school to diverse types of dancing. The next weekend, Mrs. Betty set up a school-wide dance class on the back of the basic steps of tangos, foxtrots, and many other dances. Devotion to her many students is clearly shown her hard-working personality and someday I hope to be just as hard working as she is.

What recommendations would you give this person to improve her paragraph?

What grammar mistakes are present in the paragraph that need to be corrected?