

## Literary Paragraph Example

**Topic Sentence:** *Subject* (what) + **Direction** (so what)

While initially the conch is used to unify the boys, *its use as a communication tool* is what **symbolically expresses the importance of order in power.**

**Evidence:** *Context* + **Speaker** + “quote” (#).

*During one of their initial meetings, Ralph decides, “I’ll give the conch to the next person to speak. He can hold it when he’s speaking” (33).*

**Analysis:** Literal meaning + significance or figurative meaning + Connection to direction.

- *First explain what the quote, very **literally**, means:* Only the boy who holds the pink shell can share his ideas.
- *Next, explain its **significance**:* The conch allows their voices and ideas to be heard in order to make decisions.
- *Finally, connect to the **direction** of your topic sentence:* The recognition of the importance of each boys’ ideas, suggests that Ralph views communication as source power. Using the conch as means to communicate their ideas in a disciplined fashion, suggests that without order, the power of their ideas is ineffective.

**Transitions:** Well organized paragraphs use transitions between the topic sentence, evidence, and analysis, which let the reader know where the argument is going. Simple transitions such as "for example," "for instance," "therefore," "however," and "also" are useful to show relationships between ideas. More complex transitions can be whole phrases or even sentences that show how the writer is moving from one idea to another. See transitions in bold below:

While initially the conch is used to unify the boys, its use as a communication tool is what symbolically expresses the importance of order in power. **During one of their initial meetings**, Ralph decides, “I’ll give the conch to the next person to speak. He can hold it when he’s speaking” (33). Only the boy who holds the pink shell can share his ideas. **Through the rule set by the chief**, the conch allows their voices and ideas to be heard in order to make decisions. The recognition of the importance of each boys’ ideas, suggests that Ralph views communication as a source power. **In addition**, using the conch as a means to communicate their ideas in a disciplined fashion, suggests that without order, the power of their ideas is ineffective.