

T-BEAR

(for body paragraphs)

- T** = **topic sentence (states what part of your thesis your are proving)**
- B** = **buildup information (give some context for your evidence, clarify what you mean in the topic sentence)**
- E** = **evidence (proof, examples, details, quotes)**
- A** = **analysis (So what? Why does this matter? What is your opinion on the situation? Describe how your evidence proves your thesis is true.)**
- R** = **restate topic sentence in a different way**

T-BEAR is a formula for organizing a solid body paragraph. The parts of T-BEAR must go in order, but may be repeated or combined in various configurations, such as: T.B.E.A.R., T.B.E.A.E.A.R., T.B.E.B.E.A.R., T.B.E.A.B.E.A.R., T.B.E.A.E.A.E.A.R., T.B.EA.E.A.R., .TB.E.AR., etc... Even though "T-BEAR" is only 5 letters, writers should expect to write more than 5 sentences. For example, a body paragraph will likely need more than 1 sentence of evidence and/or more than 1 sentence of analysis. Writers add variety to an essay by mixing up the amount of evidence and analysis from one paragraph to the next.

SAMPLE PARAGRAPHS

T-BEAR for an informative essay – T.B.E.A.R

T - First of all, a teacher must want to work with other people. **B** - Because teachers come in contact with many students and colleagues on a daily basis, they must not be introverted, or shy and withdrawn. **E** - Mr. Moody, an English teacher at Inderkum High School, mentioned that he sees over 160 students per day and regularly collaborates with other members of his department, as well as school and district wide. **A** - Teachers, like Mr. Moody, must be outgoing and willing to share experiences with the students for their learning benefit, and faculty for their continuation of high standards of student achievement. **R** - Even though working with others is a job requirement for teachers, they must want to do it, too.

T-BEAR for an explanatory essay – T.B.E.A.R

T - A sense of satisfaction in helping others is the most important benefit of volunteering in the community. **B** - Not only will a volunteer aid those in need of some service, but he or she will also feel good about doing something nice for them without expecting something in return. **E** - Many high school students find time in their busy schedules to volunteer as tutors at their local elementary schools. **A** - They, like teachers, do not do this for the money (as funding does not exist for this work), but for the satisfaction of seeing a child's face light up when he or she understands how to complete the problem or grasps the larger concept of how the pieces fit together. A smile and a thank you truly warms the heart and soul. **R** - This sense of satisfaction in volunteering is a value that all citizens should embrace.

T-BEAR for an argument essay – T.B.E.A.B.E.A.R.

T - Cloning a pet an atrocious method to find a pet for several reasons. **B** - Everyone wants a healthy pet that does not need excessive visits to the veterinarian. **E** - Unfortunately, cloning is not a perfect science; "For every successful one, there are dozens of failures" (Lewis 1). **A** - Therefore a cloned pet is often a miserable pet that will suffer with birth defects or worse. **B** - In addition animal shelters need people to adopt homeless pets. **E** - In fact the humane society of each county is a perfect resource for any family wanting a pet: "Shelters are overflowing with dogs and cats" (Lewis 1). **A** - Cloning is not necessary when animal shelters are over crowded places where animals suffer and are often euthanized. **R** - To sum up, cloning should be avoided to minimize birth defects and decrease over crowding in animal shelters.