

The Recipe for the Paragraph:

- 1. **Introductory Sentence**
- 2. **Problem**      **Beginning**  
                                 ↓
- 3. **Events**      **Middle**  
                                 ↓
- 4. **Solution**      **End**
- 5. **Concluding Sentence**

**Color #1** Put an **I** in front of Introductory Sentence  
Put a **P** in front of Problem  
Put a **1**, **2**, **3**, **4** in front of each event  
Put an **S** in front of Solution  
Put a **C** in front of Concluding Sentence

**Color #2** Circle Transition Words

**Color #3** Underline Juicy Words

## Step-by-Step directions for filling out Story Map

1. Read the story.
2. On Story Map, fill out:
  - Purpose: Problem-Solution
  - Title
  - Characters and Setting
  - Label boxes: Problem and Solution
3. Begin reading story again, and after each sentence or page ask yourself, "Do I know what the problem is yet?"
  - If no, keep reading.
  - If yes, write it down.
4. Once the problem is written down, write down the solution. Make sure it matches the problem.
5. Now you are ready to write the events. Find the page that tells you what the problem is. Read what happens right after that and ask yourself, "Does this help solve the problem?" OR "Did the character do this because she's trying to solve the problem?" If yes, write it down for Event #1.
6. Keep reading. After every page, or every time a character does something, ask yourself the same question. When the answer is yes, write it down.
7. Stop when your last event leads to the solution.

## Step-by-Step Directions for Writing the Paragraph

1. Introductory Sentence has two jobs:
  - Introduce the title of the story
  - Tell what the whole story is about - but don't give away the problem. (You may get a hint from the characters and the setting. Or, you may explain that there's a mystery or problem to be solved because your whole paragraph is about solving a problem. But don't give away what the problem is until the next sentence!)
2. Copy the Problem from your Story Map.
3. Make sure you have picked transition words for your events, and then copy the events in order.
4. Copy your Solution from your Story Map.
5. Decide what transition word you want to use for your Concluding Sentence. Before thinking of a Concluding Sentence, look back at your Introductory Sentence. Look at what you said the story was about. Pick out some key words (about main character, setting) and try to use those in your concluding sentence. Since your whole paragraph is about solving a problem, you might want to mention that the mystery was solved.

**The Cure for “I don’t know what to write!”  
Ask yourself...**

	<b>Problem – Solution</b>	<b>Cause – Effect</b>	<b>Character Trait</b>
<b>Introductory Sentence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the purpose of this paragraph? (there is a mystery to solve)</li> <li>• Who is the most important character?</li> <li>• Where is the mystery taking place?</li> <li>• Remember not to give away the problem!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the purpose of this paragraph? (something or someone changes from beginning to end of the story)</li> <li>• Who or what changes?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the purpose of this paragraph? (to prove a character trait)</li> <li>• What is the character like at the beginning of the story? Is he/she the same or different at the end? (Does the character stay the same, or change?)</li> </ul>
<b>Beginning Box</b>	What is the problem that the whole story is about solving?	What is different at the end of the story than at the beginning of the story? What is he/she/it like at the beginning of the story?	Think of things that the character does in the story, or that happens to the character in the story, and ask yourself: What kind of person would do that? (If Character stays same throughout story, then put character trait in Introductory Sentence, and don’t write sentences for the Beginning and Ending boxes.)
<b>Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happens next that helps solve the problem?</li> <li>• What does the character do next to help solve the problem?</li> <li>• Does this have to happen in order for the problem to be solved?</li> <li>• Does this little problem have to be overcome before the story’s big problem can be solved?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happens at the beginning of the story that causes everything else to happen?</li> <li>• What happens next that helps cause the change?</li> <li>• Does this have to happen in order for everything else to happen?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the first thing the character does that proves he/she is _____?</li> <li>• What happens next that proves the character is _____, or that helps explain how the character changes?</li> </ul>
<b>Ending Box</b>	If the problem is _____, then the solution is _____. Make sure it matches the problem.	If the “Before box” is _____, then the “After box” is _____. Make sure it matches the “Before box.”	Is the character the same at the end of the story? Then cross out this box. Is the character different at the end? Did the character change? What is the character like at the end? (Make sure that your events prove the change from beginning to end.)
<b>Concluding Sentence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reread the Introductory Sentence, and pick out the key words. The name of a character, the setting, the mystery. Come up with a sentence that uses these words, and lets the reader know that the mystery was solved.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reread the Introductory Sentence. Who or what changes in this story?</li> <li>• Look back at the first event. What was the first thing to happen that caused everything else to happen in the story?</li> <li>• Was the character able to do anything at the beginning of the story that he/she can’t do at the end? What can’t he/she do anymore?</li> <li>• Did any of the characters learn a lesson in the story?</li> <li>• Does the story explain why something is the way it is at the end?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reread the Introductory Sentence, and pick out the key words. The name of the character, and the character trait. Come up with a new sentence that uses these words.</li> </ul>