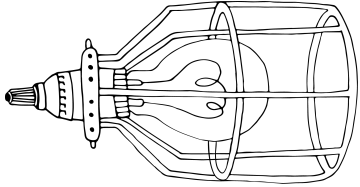


# ANALYZING PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

Grab **FOUR** different colored pencils/pens: one for each of the PEEL elements. Then annotate the following paragraphs, underlining the different elements in different colors.

KEY

- ☐ POINT
- ☐ EXPLANATION
- ☐ EVIDENCE
- ☐ LINK



**1** Keeping a pet requires dedication and selflessness; it is not a decision which should be considered lightly, and one needs to take into account all the responsibilities involved before making the commitment. For example, fish tanks need to be washed out on a weekly basis, hamster cages need to be cleaned out regularly, and dogs need to be walked daily. Moreover, animals need constant love and affection, and one's lifestyle will need to be adjusted when accommodating a pet. Consequently, there are many factors which need to be weighed up before making such a commitment.

**2** Self-confidence is one of the most important qualities a person can possess. When one fully believes in oneself, it is clear to see as it impacts a person's whole attitude and the way he/she presents him/herself to others. Indeed, psychologist Dr. Mark Jones argues that self-confidence actually makes people more attractive to others. Moreover, it has been linked to success in the workplace, and happiness in people's personal lives. Furthermore, Karl Gruber, a journalist, argues that without self-confidence, you end up "relying on other people to guide you and following their opinions robs you of your individuality, makes you unsure of yourself and can lead to depression". For these reasons, and many more, we need to consider instilling self-confidence in our children as a key component of their education.

**3** It may not be much of a surprise to most people, but research has found that sitting down for too long can actually cause multiple different health issues. Indeed, a report released by Mayo clinic found that the average American sits down for eleven hours a day. This is a staggering amount, and it means that we are a nation of extremely sedentary individuals. This lack of physical exertion has extremely damaging effects: it has been linked to levels of anxiety, heart disease, obesity and depression. Thus, we need to think carefully about our daily routines and levels of physical activity if we care about our health.

**4** As with most tasks in life, the key to a good essay is preparation and planning. If you spend the majority of your time on your planning, when you come to writing your essay it is just a matter of turning your thoughts into full, coherent and well-written sentences. One teacher has noted that "planning is the most essential part of the writing process as it is in this stage that one fully organizes one's thoughts and ideas" (Holt 53). Too many students skip the planning stage, thinking that it is a waste of time, and their resultant essays lack structure and depth. Consequently, if you wish to write an essay which will dazzle your teacher, take the time to plan in detail.

**5** Apple Mac computers are clearly superior to PCs. They are more user-friendly, aesthetically pleasing and durable. However, this is not just a personal opinion, but one which is shared by many. In our survey of 359 students, 73% said that they would pick a MacBook Pro over a Dell XPS or Lenovo Yoga Pro. Arguably, Apple products are often more expensive than their PC counterparts, but cost is offset by their longevity and reliability. Therefore, it is safe to say that Apple will not be fading out of the marketplace any time soon.

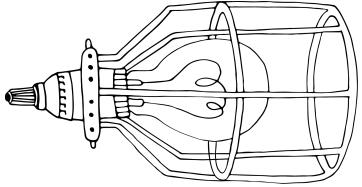
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## ANSWER KEY

KEY

-  **POINT**
-  **EXPLANATION**
-  **EVIDENCE**
-  **LINK**



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