

# 3.8 Paragraph Format: The Basics

## Traditional Paragraph vs 3.8 Paragraph

### Traditional Paragraph:

The fall is definitely my favorite season of the year. First, it is the most beautiful of the four seasons. Next, the temperature in the fall is perfect. Finally, my favorite holiday of the year, Thanksgiving, is in the fall. More than any other season, the fall is my favorite time of year.

### 3.8 Paragraph:

*3 points in 8 sentences*

The fall is definitely my favorite season of the year. First, it is the most beautiful of the four seasons. The leaves of the trees seem to explode into glorious colors: reds, oranges, golds, and browns. Next, the temperature in the fall is perfect. The days in the low seventies let people comfortably wear whatever clothes they like, and the nighttime temperatures make for a great night's sleep. Finally, my favorite holiday of the year, Thanksgiving, is in the fall. It provides a few days off in the middle of the first months of school to visit with friends and family while enjoying delicious food. More than any other season, the fall is my favorite time of year.

## What is a 3.8 paragraph?

A 3.8 paragraph is a paragraph that makes three points in eight sentences.

1. Topic sentence
2. **First "point"** - *paraphrase*
3. Details that support the first "point" - *details - direct quote / evidence*
4. **Second "point"**
5. Details that support the second "point"
6. **Third "point"**
7. Details that support the third "point"
8. Conclusion/Clincher

*that supports*

## Resources:

[http://www.beavercreek.k12.oh.us/cms/lib5/oh01000456/centricity/domain/252/model\\_38\\_paragraph.pdf](http://www.beavercreek.k12.oh.us/cms/lib5/oh01000456/centricity/domain/252/model_38_paragraph.pdf)

<http://www.readingschools.org/olc/page.aspx?id=14349&s=212>

## How Do I Convert a 3.8 Paragraph to a Five-Paragraph Essay?

### Outline

#### Paragraph One: Introduction

1. Hook and thesis statement
2. **Point 1**
3. **Point 2**
4. **Point 3**
5. Clincher

#### Paragraph Two: **Point 1**

1. Topic sentence
2. Point 1
3. Supporting details
4. Point 2
5. Supporting details
6. Point 3
7. Supporting details
8. Clincher

#### Paragraph Three: **Point 2**

1. Topic sentence
2. Point 1
3. Supporting details
4. Point 2
5. Supporting details
6. Point 3
7. Supporting details
8. Clincher

#### Paragraph Four: **Point 3**

1. Topic sentence
2. Point 1
3. Supporting details
4. Point 2
5. Supporting details
6. Point 3
7. Supporting details
8. Clincher

#### Paragraph Five: Closing

1. Thesis statement
2. 3 points
3. Clincher

### Sample Outline

#### Paragraph One: Introduction

1. **Video Games are bad for children.**
2. **Unhealthy**
3. **Violence**
4. **School Problems**
5. Clincher

#### Paragraph Two: **Point 1**

1. Unhealthy
2. **Higher rates of obesity**
3. Supporting details
4. **Eat more junk food while they play**
5. Supporting details
6. **Less exercise**
7. Supporting details
8. Clincher

#### Paragraph Three: **Point 2**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Clincher

#### Paragraph Four: **Point 3**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Clincher

#### Paragraph Five: Closing

1. Thesis statement
2. 3 points
3. Clincher