

What is a paragraph?

A paragraph contains all the sentences that deal with one set of ideas. You divide your text into paragraphs to show the reader when one set of ideas has ended and another has begun.

A paragraph gives one main idea and all the examples or the smaller ideas that explain it. The main idea is sometimes called the **theme**.

The **theme** of a paragraph is given in the topic sentence. This is usually the first sentence of the paragraph. The topic sentence tells your reader what the paragraph is about and what your idea is.

topic sentence { **theme**
The space in my new room is big enough for everything I want to do. I can spread out board games on the floor, which has a soft rug to sit on. Even better, the floor isn't covered with junk because there are huge cupboards to store stuff in. And if I want to make sure a toy is kept safely away from my brother, I can hide it in a hole in the wall I found next to my bed.

topic sentence { **theme**
The room is so big that it can easily fit the big desk that Dad used to keep in the study. Not only did he give me the desk, I also got the old computer that sits on it. The computer doesn't have the Internet, but it can play games and it makes homework easier. But the desk's drawers are the best thing.