

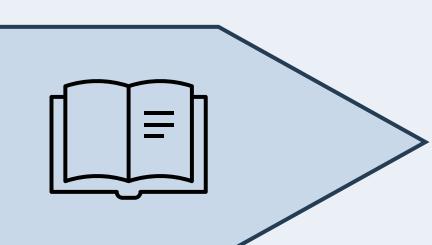
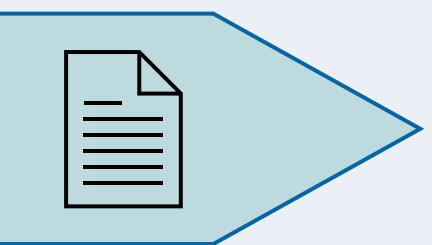
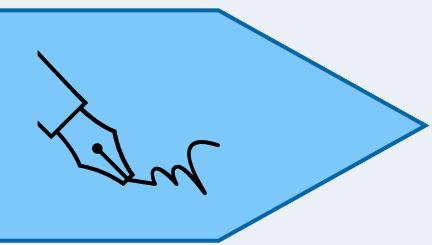
# The Writing Process

Steven Reid

January 13, 2026

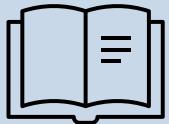


# Agenda



# Agenda

Start with good sentences

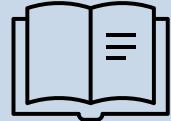


# Agenda

Start with good sentences



Build to paragraphs



# Agenda

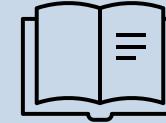
Start with good sentences



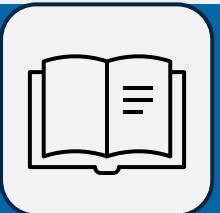
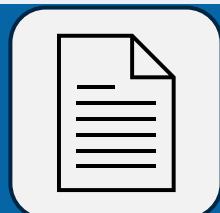
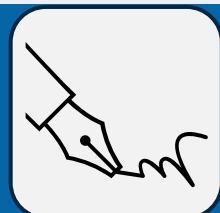
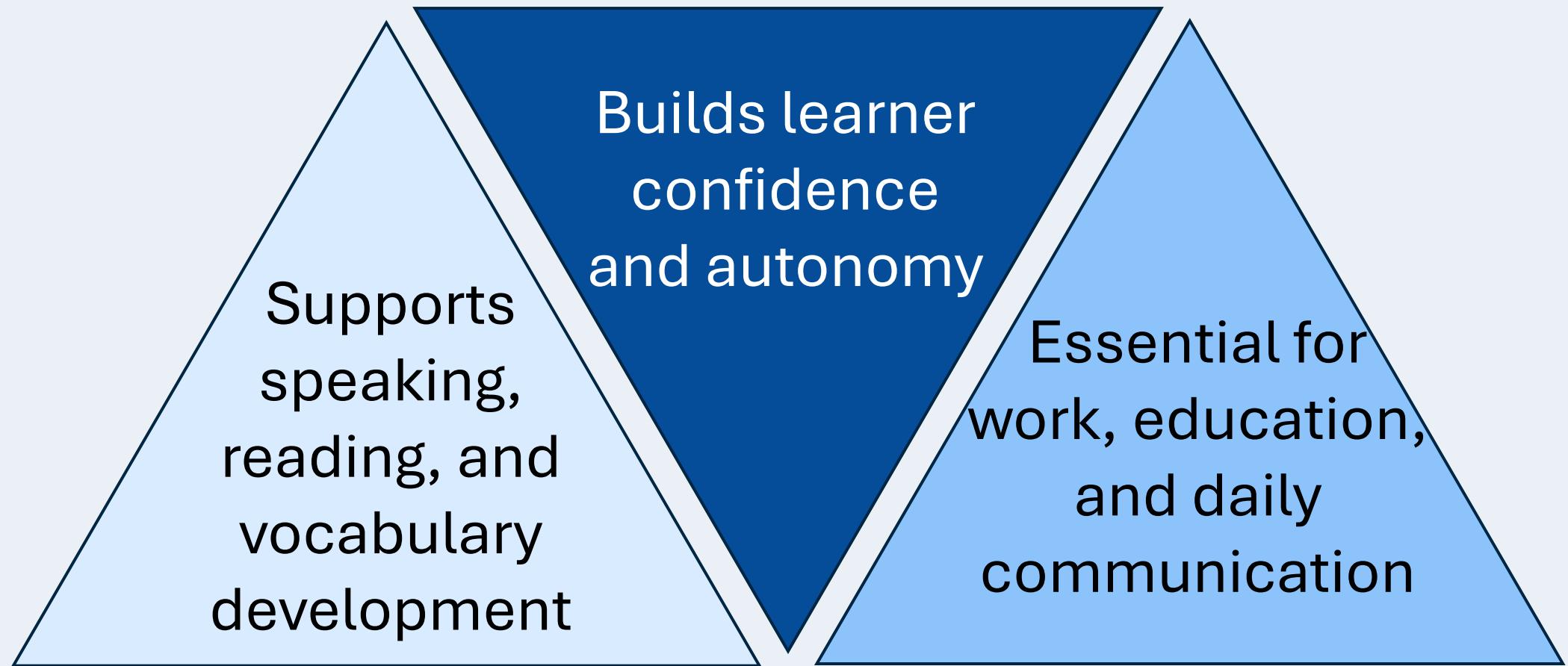
Build to paragraphs



Move on to stories



# Why Writing Instruction Matters

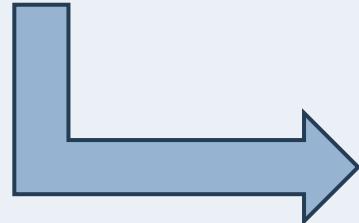




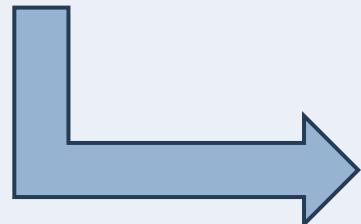
# Start with Good Sentences

# Start with good sentences

Too many skip this step!



Sentence structure is  
NOT universal across  
all languages



Teach the foundation  
of a proper English  
sentence



# Structure of an English sentence

- Start with sentences in standard form

Subject – Verb – Object



# Types of Sentences

- Simple
  - Contains a single independent clause
- Compound
  - Contains two (or more) independent clauses
  - Connected with coordinating conjunctions (*and, or, nor, but, for, so, yet*)
- Complex
  - Contains one independent clause and one (or more) subordinate clauses
  - Connected with subordinating conjunctions (*if, because, when, since, etc.*)
- Compound-Complex
  - Two or more independent clauses and one or more subordinate clauses



# Teaching Strategies for Sentences



## Sentence Frames

- Abdul \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
He is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- You can supply the words for the blanks in early lessons and then remove them for later practice.

## Sentence Expansion

- Start with a short simple sentence. Subject and verb only.
- Add some adjectives.
- Add a prepositional phrase
- Add some adverbs,
- Etc.





# Build Towards Paragraphs

# From Sentences to Paragraphs

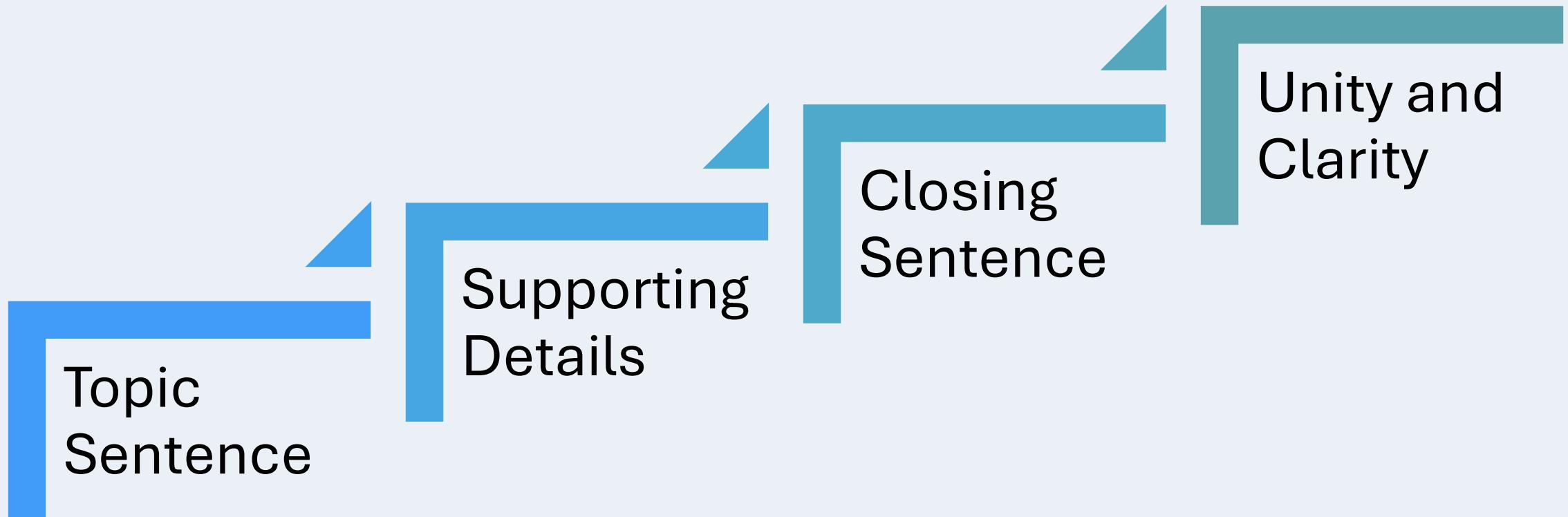
Paragraphs  
require  
structure, not  
just more  
sentences

Teach  
organization  
explicitly

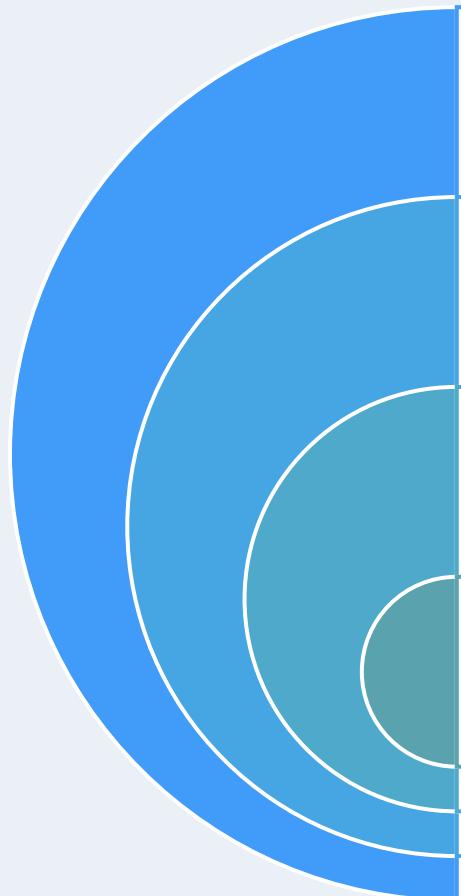
Writing  
becomes  
more  
meaningful  
and  
purposeful



# Key Elements of a Paragraph



# Teaching Paragraph Structure



Use a graphic organizer

Color-code parts of a paragraph

Model writing together

Analyze strong examples



# Scaffolding Strategies

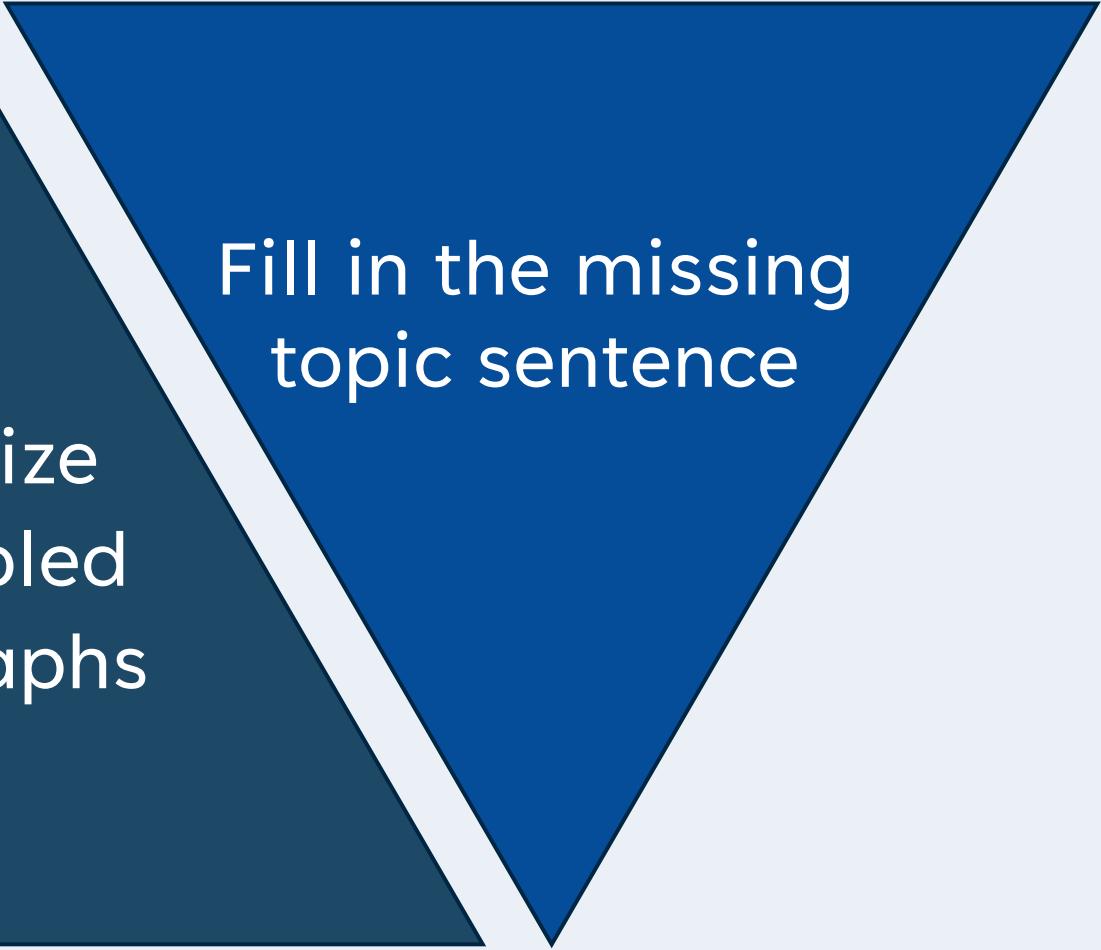
- Guided writing before independent writing
- Collaborative paragraph construction
- Sentence frames gradually removed



# Lesson Activities



Organize  
scrambled  
paragraphs



Fill in the missing  
topic sentence





Move onto Writing Stories and  
Essays

# Transitioning to Longer Writing

- Students need structure, planning, and support
- Emphasize process over perfection
- Writing becomes a tool for expression



# Transitioning to Longer Writing

Emphasize process over perfection

Students need structure, planning, and support

Writing becomes a tool for expression



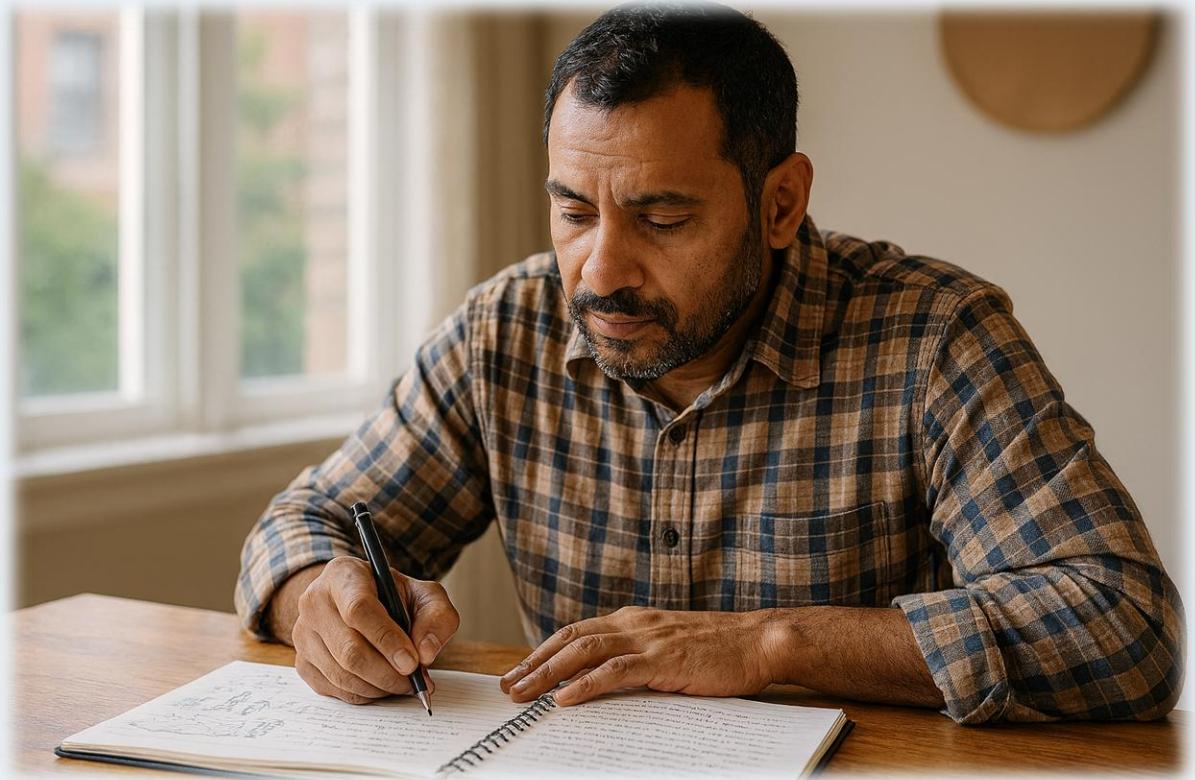
# Teaching the Writing Process

- Prewriting – brainstorming and planning
- Drafting
- Revising
- Editing
- Publishing & Sharing



# Teaching Stories

- Beginning, middle, and end
- Characters, setting, problem, solution
- Use of personal experiences
- Visual organizers (story maps)



# Teaching Essays



- Simple structure (introduction, body, conclusion)
- Clear focus on one main idea
- Supporting ideas with examples
- Gradual introduction of academic tone



# Supporting Adult Learners with Longer Writing

- Provide models at every level
- Use real-life, relevant topics
- Allow choice when possible
- Build confidence through feedback and celebration



# Assessment and Feedback Strategies



- Rubrics with simple criteria
- Focus on feedback (not correcting everything)
- Self-assessment and reflection
- Growth over time



# Common Challenges and Solutions



## Challenge

- Fear of making mistakes
  - Limited vocabulary
  - Low confidence

## Solution

- Normalize drafting
- Provide word banks
- Celebrate small successes



# Discussion/Reflection

What strategies already work well in your teaching?

What is one idea you will try with your student?

