

Marking notes: PARAGRAPH ANALYSIS EXERCISE 2

Paragraphs to be analyzed: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 of student research proposal, page 447

Paragraph: 2

Function performed: *introductory*

Topic sentence: *1st*

Description of developmental pattern: *chronological (past/present/future)*

(This paragraph sets up the problem-solution pattern found in the four paragraphs that constitute the Background section of Amy Suen's proposal.) Sentence 1 initiates the chronological pattern by stating what Mark Reuters has already done with 2020 Design's computer network. Sentence 2 tells what Mark is currently doing and points to his immediate future plans. Then, sentence 3 looks farther into the future. Also, sentence 3 foreshadows the problem discussed in the next paragraphs.

Paragraph: 3

Function performed: *developmental*

Topic sentence: *1st*

Description of developmental pattern: *extended definition.*

Sentence 1 names the problem. Sentences 2 and 3 define that problem by describing two conflicting components of the problem. Sentence 2 explains that 2020 Design needs to protect its proprietary designs while sentence 3 shows that 2020's computer network (with its software designs) is vulnerable to attack.

Paragraph: 4

Function performed: *developmental*

Topic sentence: *1st*

Description of developmental pattern: *general to specific identification (definition)*

This paragraph introduces solutions to 2020's problem. Sentence 1 names the overall solution ("firewall") and amplifies the firewall concept by naming its three main operative aspects. Sentence 2 zeroes in on just one of those aspects and introduces the writer's (Amy Suen) involvement.

Paragraph: 5

Function performed: *developmental*

Topic sentence: *4th*

Description of developmental pattern: *emphatic argument (specifics leading to a general statement)* *Sentence 1 seems to be a topic sentence followed by proof in sentence 2. But then sentence 3 presents a further complicating factor. And sentence 4 presents the paragraph's main point (that it's hard to pick a firewall software) as a bottom-line statement.*

Paragraph: 6

Function performed: *developmental*

Topic sentence: *1st*

Description of developmental pattern: *chronological (process description)*

This complicated paragraph presents the progressive stages the writer is proposing to follow in her research project. Sentence 1 sets up the process. Then, the numbered bolded sub-topic sentences lead into four sub-paragraphs, each of which describes (and justifies) the four sequential stages of the proposed process. This highly structured approach makes the lengthy complicated paragraph easy to read while the content helps build the writer's credibility.