

Analytical/ Body Paragraph Recipe

1. Topic Sentence

- In one sentence, answer or address the prompt you have been given. Include both (1) an opinion, and (2) a qualifier.
- The opinion is what you think and the qualifier supports your opinion and helps focus your analysis later in the paragraph.
- For example, *World War I deserves the title “The Great War” because of all the new technology that led to deaths at a level not seen in any previous wars.*

2. Context

- Before introducing the first piece of evidence, share context information that is necessary in order to understand what you are discussing.
- For example, if you are discussing World War I, context sentences might be: *World War I was fought between 1914 and 1918. On one side were Great Britain, France, Russia, and later, the United States and Italy. On the other side were the Central Powers: the German, Austro-Hungarian, and Ottoman Empires. In total, over 65 million men were mobilized in the war.*

3. Evidence

- You should have at least two pieces of evidence that support your opinion in the topic sentence (thesis). You may have more than two, but if you have too many, say five, you will need to use only the best evidence, or have multiple paragraphs
- For example, *Regardless of which side they fought on, all of the men who fought used new technology to help kill their enemies. One new weapon was the machine gun; the machine could fire up to 600 bullets per minutes. Another new piece of technology was poisonous gas. Phosgene, mustard, and chlorine gases were used by both sides in the trenches and cause death and suffering. A third new weapon were zeppelins. Slow moving blimps, they were used by the Central Powers to target civilians.*

4. Analysis of Evidence

- In two or more sentences, you need to explain how the evidence you chose to include shows that the opinion in your topic sentence is right.
- For example, *Both machine guns and poisonous gas affected the men who fought and led to millions more deaths because they allowed a soldier to kill his enemy from a safer, farther distance. They also allowed the soldier a greater number of their enemy more quickly. The zeppelin is another reason why World War I deserves the title “great”. Unlike past wars, armies in World War I deliberately targeted civilians with their weapons of war, like the zeppelin and later the plane.*

5. Significance

- In one or two sentences, explain how all the evidence and analysis is tied together. Explain the importance of this topic and your opinion and try to connect the topic to something else in order to show its importance
- For example, *There was more new technology than just these three examples and all of the technology made the war deadly and destructive. The vast destruction of lives and of the landscape continued to affect Europe for decades after.*

World War I deserves the title “The Great War” because of all the new technology that led to deaths at a level not seen in any previous wars. World War I was fought between 1914 and 1918. On one side were Great Britain, France, Russia, and later, the United States and Italy. On the other side were the Central Powers: the German, Austro-Hungarian, and Ottoman Empires. In total, over 65 million men were mobilized in the war. Regardless of which side they fought on, all of the men who fought used new technology to help kill their enemies. One new weapon was the machine gun; the machine could fire up to 600 bullets per minutes. Another new piece of technology was poisonous gas. Phosgene, mustard, and chlorine gases were used by both sides in the trenches and cause death and suffering. A third new weapon were zeppelins. Slow moving blimps, they were used by the Central Powers to target civilians. Both machine guns and poisonous gas affected the men who fought and led to millions more deaths because they allowed a soldier to kill his enemy from a safer, farther distance. They also allowed the soldier a greater number of their enemy more quickly. The zeppelin is another reason why World War I deserves the title “great”. Unlike past wars, armies in World War I deliberately targeted civilians with their weapons of war, like the zeppelin and later the plane. There was more new technology than just these three examples and all of the technology made the war deadly and destructive. The vast destruction of lives and of the landscape continued to affect Europe for decades after.