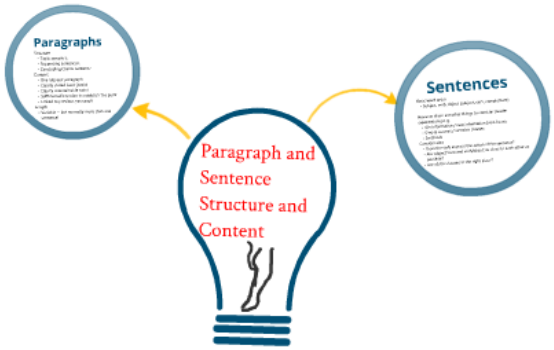
Paper Structure and Content
IMRAD
Introduction
Methods, Results, Analysis
Discussion, Conclusion
Story Telling
Opening
Introduction
Challenge
Action
Resolution


Paragraph and Sentence Structure and Content
Paragraphs
Sentences

Prezi

Paper Structure and Content

IMRAD

- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Analysis
- Discussion/conclusion

Introduction

CARS Model (Create a Research Space Model)

Move 1. Establish a research territory
- introduce and review previous research (O)
- show importance, central interest, problem, relevancy (O)

Move 2. Establish a niche
- indicate a gap or extend previous knowledge (O)

Move 3. Occupy the niche
- outline purposes or nature of present research (O)
- list research questions or hypotheses (PFSF)
- announce principal findings (PFSF)
- announce value of present research (PFSF)
- state value of present research (PFSF)
- indicate structure of the research paper (PFSF)

PFSF = probable in some fields, rare in others
O = obligatory

Methods, Results, Analysis

- Data/results
- Inference
- Interpretation

Discussion, Conclusion

- Summarise findings
- Transition
- Evaluate findings
- Implications
- Limitations
- Consider findings within larger research area
- Possible future work
- Leave a "final message"

Story Telling

OCAR
- Opening
- Challenge
- Action
- Resolution

Opening

- Whom/what is the story about/who are the characters?
- Where does the story take place?
- What does your reader need to understand about the situation to follow the story?
- What is the larger problem you are addressing?

Challenge

Does it
- contain an obvious challenge?
- described the specific knowledge you hope to gain? (The question that drove you to do the research)
- briefly lay out the research approach ("to learn X, we did Y")
- provide a brief overview of the conclusions?

Action

Consists of Materials, Methods, Results/ Analysis and most of Discussion

Do you
- clearly differentiate between Data, Inference and Interpretation?
- answer the question "What has been done to address the challenge?"
- show your contribution to the larger problem?

Resolution

Does it
- have your "take-home message"?
- use your strongest and most memorable words?
- step backwards through OCAR? (reiterate the action, answer the questions, demonstrate contribution to larger problem)
- explain how the characters and their world changed as a result of the action?
- show how our understanding of "nature" has advanced?
- concentrate on what you achieved rather than what you didn't achieve?

Introduction

Does it
- define a problem and narrow to an interesting question?
- show us what we don't know and why it is important?
- identify the boundaries of current knowledge?
- connect the opening and the challenge?

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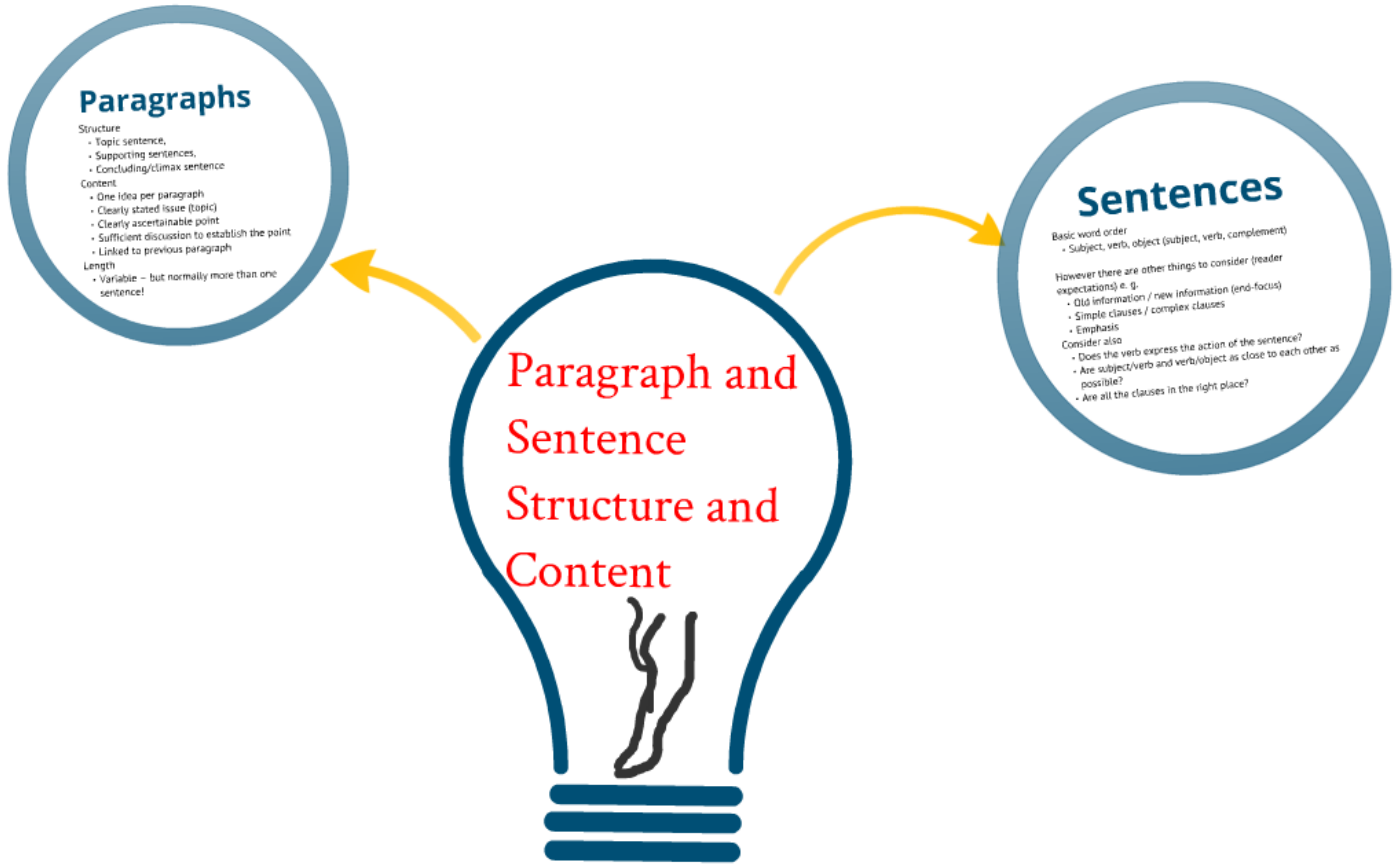
Paragraphs
Structure
• Topic sentence,
• Supporting sentences,
• Concluding/climax sentence
Content
• One idea per paragraph
• Clearly stated issue (topic)
• Clearly ascertainable point
• Sufficient discussion to establish the point
• Linked to previous paragraph
Length
• Variable – but normally more than one sentence!
Paragraph and Sentence Structure and Content
Sentences
Basic word order
• Subject, verb, object (subject, verb, complement)
However there are other things to consider (reader expectations) e. g.
• Old information / new information (end-focus)
• Simple clauses / complex clauses
• Emphasis
Consider also
• Does the verb express the action of the sentence?
• Are subject/verb and verb/object as close to each other as possible?
• Are all the clauses in the right place?

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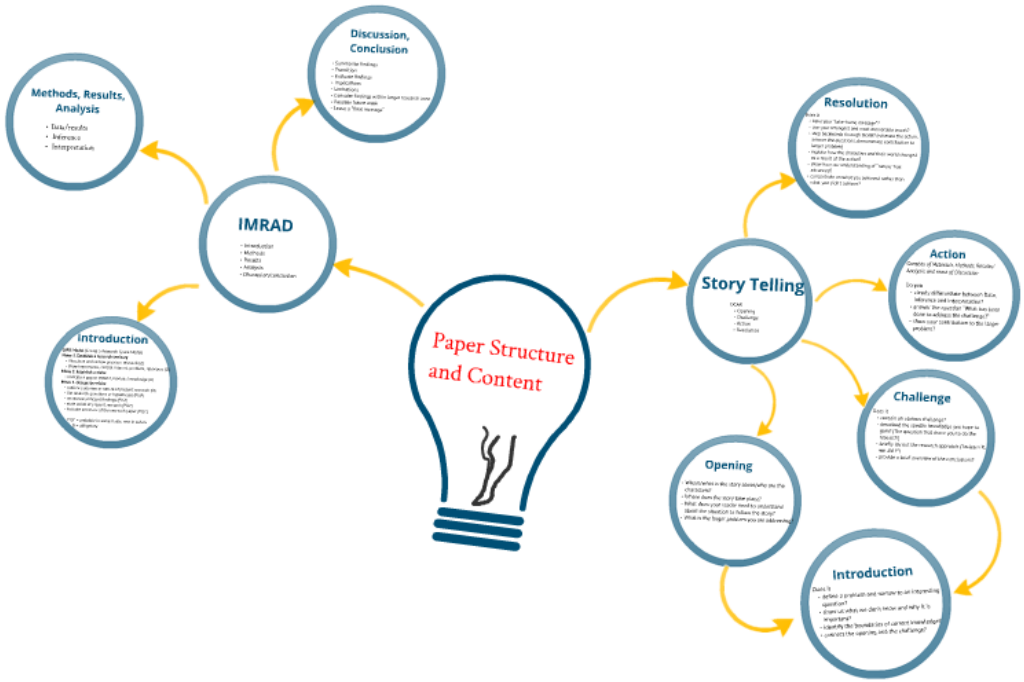
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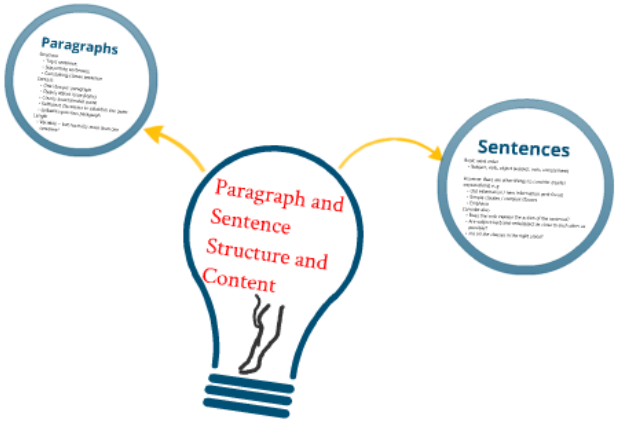
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