

# Memorial of the 5 Paragraph Essay

Kevin Snodgrass

In this article, Kevin Snodgrass writes an obituary and memorial of the 5 paragraph essay, which died in his ENG 101 class. In his memorial, he reminisces about what he learned at an early age about writing a 5 paragraph essay and his later, more complicated encounters, including the ACTS introduction, STAG conclusion, and mel-con body paragraph.

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## OBITUARIES

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### INTRODUCTION

Attention Getter –  
Connector Sentence –  
Thesis Statement –  
Summary Sentence –

### BODY PARAGRAPH 1

Main Idea –  
Evidence –  
Link Evidence to Main Idea –  
Conclusion –

### BODY PARAGRAPH 2

Main Idea –  
Evidence –  
Link Evidence to Main Idea –  
Conclusion –

### BODY PARAGRAPH 3

Main Idea –  
Evidence –  
Link Evidence to Main Idea –  
Conclusion –

### CONCLUSION

Summary Sentence –  
Thesis Restated –  
Attention Getter Restated –  
Clincher Sentence –

Picture of the Deceased

### **The 5 paragraph essay died on September 1, 2010 at approximately 11:15 AM in English 101 class.**

All services will be held in future English 101 classes ranging in date and time. All students will be required to attend and take part in the services.

The 5 paragraph essay will not be forgotten but lives on in the memories of his father brainstorming activity, mother pre-assigned topic, his brother research report, and his sister timed essay.

The 5 paragraph loved to sit around all day and write as many details as he could in each of his 3 body paragraphs, he loved to make his writing simple and traditional, and most of all he loved hanging out with the new friends he met every year in elementary school.

I remember the day like it was yesterday. It was my third grade class, and Mrs. Ortiz began Language Arts class by introducing the 5 paragraph essay to us. My first reaction was, “I like writing, so this is going to be fun.” Mrs. Ortiz began her lesson by saying, “All of you will get to know the 5 paragraph essay very well over the next few years.” It was then I knew I would have a long lasting friendship with the 5 paragraph essay. It was easy to see how the 5 paragraph essay became such good friends with so many people; the easy flowing introduction to the three body paragraphs to the conclusion, it all just made so much sense.

The first time we hung out together was when I wrote my research paper on chameleons. We had so much fun together. At first it seemed like we were playing together at the park, but the 5 paragraph essay quickly reminded me that the serious issue at hand was to get the work done. He told me to follow the steps of writing an introduction, body paragraph, body paragraph,

Currently, Walter Payton is not alive, but he will always be remembered. He was voted into the Hall of Fame in 1993, which was the first year he was eligible. His number was retired in soldier field. #34 will not be able to be worn by anyone ever again that plays on the Bears. The Walter and Connie Foundation is still alive, and they are helping children that do not have a good Christmas. Even without Walter, the foundation is still doing well because of the people that cared about Walter Payton. That is how Walter Payton influenced the people for the future.

An early photo of 5 paragraph essay, before he showed me about STAC to help conclude a paper.

body paragraph, and conclusion. He said that if I followed those guidelines I would be guaranteed a good grade. So what did I do? I followed my new best friend’s guidelines and wrote one of the funnest 5 paragraph essays ever. Nothing could stop our friendship after that essay. I thought it was going to last forever. My relationship with my best friend grew closer in sixth grade when he told me more about himself. He gave me some hints about what should be in an introduction and what should be in a conclusion. My best friend said that the introduction should have an attention getter, connector sentence, thesis statement, and a summary sentence. He helped me remember it by telling me the acronym ACTS. It was a great tool when working with my friend 5 paragraph essay. Not only did the introduction have an acronym but the conclusion did too. The acronym for the conclusion was STAC, meaning summary sentence, thesis restated, attention getter restated, and clincher sentence. These two new formats of the 5 paragraph essay were such a help to our friendship, and I used them for a long time.

When I arrived in high school with my best buddy by my side, I met one of his good friends, mel-con paragraph. Again my best friend was giving me reasons to strengthen our friendship because he knew so many cool people. When mel-con introduced himself, he told me that for each body paragraph I wrote I needed a **m**ain idea, **e**vidence for that main idea, a **l**ink

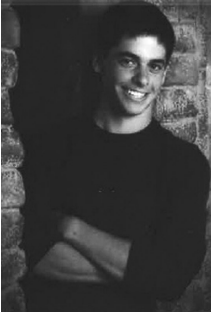
from the evidence back to the main idea, and a **conclusion** for each body paragraph in my 5 paragraph essay. Mel-con then told me that most of the time I should have more than one sentence worth of evidence and link for each paragraph because otherwise my paper wouldn't be long enough. I was stunned. "Wow!" I thought, "Now I have another great friend, and I can use this new information to write better."

Up until my senior year of high school, the 5 paragraph essay was one of my best friends, and I could rely on him for just about any writing assignment I needed to complete. But during my senior year, a new kid named creative writing came to my school. The first time we met, he said, "You will never need 5 paragraph essay when you're with me." As I found out more and more about creative, I realized that my friendship with 5 paragraph essay wasn't as cool as I had thought. I saw that as a friend creative writing had so many more cool ideas and was so much more fun to hang out with than 5 paragraph essay was. Because of this, I stopped spending so much time with 5 paragraph essay. After all, friends are supposed to be fun to hang with. As graduation approached, I had a talk with 5 paragraph essay about my going away to college at the end of the summer, and he was not too happy about it. I told him, "If you want to stay home, you're more than welcome to. But I'm leaving."

He responded, "I want to stay at home; I don't really feel like changing when we're already doing our best work here in high school."

It was only a few weeks later on the 1st of September that my best friend 5 paragraph essay walked into my English 101 classroom and dropped dead. While the autopsy report said that 5 paragraph essay had died due to a heart attack, I think it was the shock of seeing how well I was doing without him.

I will miss the 5 paragraph essay for many reasons. He was the one that first showed me some of the basic forms of writing. He was the one that told me how to *correctly* write a *proper* body paragraph. He was the one that showed me how to write an introduction and conclusion. He was the one that opened the door to bigger and better things in my future. He was the one that left room for creativity without me knowing and knew, even if he wouldn't admit it, that I would find it. I will miss you, 5 paragraph essay, for everything you have shown me and led me to, but most of all for just being a great friend. R.I.P. buddy.



**Kevin Snodgrass** is a 19 year old sophomore from the city of Mt. Prospect and is currently studying to be an accountant. He loves to watch *Family Guy* as often as he can. He has an obsession with movie and TV show quotes, with millions already in his head. Kevin thinks life is funnier when you make jokes all the time.