

TRIAC - Paragraph & Paper Organization

TRIAC is a writing pattern you can use for your paragraph structure to make an effective *argument*. This can also help with your paper's overall organization.

T Topic Sentence - The first sentence introduces the *subject* of a paragraph, somewhat similar to a thesis statement.

R Restriction - The second sentence can restate or restrict what was written in the first sentence, making the subject more specific.

I Illustration - This section of the paragraph consists of the illustrations (*evidence, data, facts, quotes, etc...*) that support your topic sentence. This section can contain several sentences.

A Analysis - Here, you should explain, interpret, and contextualize the illustrations that have been made. Never leave illustrations by themselves; they are not effective without analysis.

C Conclusion - The final few sentences might review what the paragraph has discussed, and/or reemphasize what the **illustration** and **analysis** suggest. This closing section may also evaluate the connections you've made in your paragraph. *Keep in mind* - you are also setting yourself up to transition into the next paragraph.

TRIAC - Paragraph & Paper Organization *Example*

- T** - Although vegetarianism has often been associated with issues of ethics and animal rights, for many people it is no more than a means to a healthier lifestyle.
- R** - A vegetarian diet can reduce the risk of health problems such as high cholesterol, arterial clogging, and even cancer.
- I** - Recent evidence indicated that people with diets rich in dark green vegetables had a 40% less chance of developing colon cancer. In addition, cutting out meat can dramatically reduce saturated fat intake (Stewart and Ranshaw 8). Alice, a university student and seven year vegetarian, says, "I recognized my potential for cancer because of my genetic history; when my father's doctor put him on a strict no-meat diet, I decided it was time to give up burgers and pepperoni."
- A** - Choosing to cut out beef and poultry can help many people to become more aware of what they are consuming, and in turn lead to an overall healthier style of cooking and eating. In addition, it is not necessary to become a vegetarian in the strictest sense of the word; for some people, it simply means cutting down on meat intake and increasing the amount of fruits and vegetables included in meals.
- C** - These adjustments alone can be beneficial without completely altering an individual's eating habits, and these changes may prevent a myriad of health problems later in life.