

Steps to writing an "A" paragraph

1. Decide on what topic you want to discuss in your paragraph.
 - Franklin's movement from Puritanism to Deism?
 - Franklin's Enlightenment confidence in rationality and improvement? His participation in the growing confidence of the eighteenth century that humanity could, through personal effort and social reform, analyze and deal with social problems?
 - Franklin's efforts to "invent America"?
 - Franklin's pragmatism—his belief that theory should be tested primarily by experience not logic?
 - Franklin's belief in the importance of "success"?
 - Franklin's Deistic belief in the ideals of "truth, sincerity and integrity"?
2. Identify 5 or 6 points (examples, illustrations, or quotes) that you can use to develop your topic.
3. Pick at least 1 quote that is especially vivid or clear that you want to use.
4. Draft your paragraph, deciding on the best way to organize your material, working on providing transitions that make the paragraph easy for a reader to follow.
5. Find the best place for your quotation, and write a set up for it so the reader knows what it is about the quote you want him or her to notice.
6. Re-read and re-read and re-read, polishing the phrasing, removing deadwood, being sure the rhythms are smooth and the verbs are active and the nouns are precise.
7. Copy edit and spell check.