Writing the Perfect Paragraph

Your main goal in writing a solid paragraph is to do the following:

- **Begin with a discussable point** (the topic sentence—what is the paragraph about)
- **Stick to the point** (provide evidence or support for the topic sentence)
- **Prove the point; don’t merely repeat it** (now, explain the evidence or support)
- **Link your sentences to make your ideas easy to follow** (link by using transitional words and phrases, by repeating key words or pronouns, or by using similar sentence patterns).

The paragraph should be structured as follows:

1. **1st sentence**—topic sentence (what the paragraph is about)
2. **2nd sentence**—1st piece of evidence or support for the topic sentence
3. **3rd sentence**—back up the 2nd sentence with more explanation as to how or why this supports the topic sentence.
4. **4th sentence**—2nd piece of evidence or support for the topic sentence
5. **5th sentence**—back up the 4th sentence with more explanation as to how or why this supports the topic sentence.
6. **6th sentence**—3rd piece of evidence or support for the topic sentence
7. **7th sentence**—back up the 6th sentence with more explanation as to how or why this supports the topic sentence.
8. **8th sentence**—concluding sentence—sum up the paragraph with a conclusion.