

# INTRODUCTION TO TEEL-CON

...how to  
organize  
and back  
up what  
you say

# INTRODUCTION TO *TEEL-CON*

**TEELCON** is an acronym for a 7-sentence paragraph roughly based on the **generalization/support** model of exposition. It can be used in many ways, from developing a thesis in an essay exam to providing support throughout a major research project.

**TEEL-Con** is also an effective way to organize written answers for college entrance tests, as it requires the writer to adhere to the topic as well as support his opinions or ideas with examples.

*Here is the breakdown of each sentence and its function...*

# T = THE TOPIC OF THE PARAGRAPH

Here, the writer makes a general statement about a current events topic, an opinion about some local rule or policy, or even an observation about a character in literature.

The idea is to write a **focused** statement that is not self-explanatory but instead, one that demands support and examples to back it up.

# E=EXPLAIN

The second sentence expands upon the first and allows the writer to **elaborate** or further **clarify the idea** or topic the paragraph will explore.

After reading the second sentence, the reader should have a clear idea where the writer is going and no longer wonder what the topic is about.

# E1=EXAMPLE

The next sentence offers up the **first example** of what the writer has selected to prove his point.

If the paragraph was about the use of steroids in sports, a number of baseball players and the exploding number of home runs being hit in the major leagues might serve as an example.

# L1=LINK

The purpose of the fourth sentence is to **link** or **relate the example sentence** used above back to the topic sentence.

The reader is reminded here not only about **what the topic is** but also **how** the example just provided relates to the topic and supports the opinion or thesis.

## E2=EXAMPLE

The fifth sentence provides an additional example to further support or prove the point being made.

**A single reason or example is seldom convincing enough in any situation where an argument is being made.**



# L2=LINK

The next sentence again functions the same as the fourth one, in that **the use of the second example is again connected to the topic sentence.**

It is important to use different wording than the first link and make good use of transitions.

# CON=CONCLUSION

Like any paper, TEELCON writing demands some sort of summation or restating of the topic and the purpose of the preceding paragraph. The conclusion should restate the topic in a different way and may include a couple of **keyword** references to the examples used, although the latter is not essential.