

*** Look at the transition words below and insert them into the correct sentences by typing them into the spaces provided. (Note: some transition words are not needed or are used twice.)**

A) *Above all, However, Once, The first step, Typically*

Academic writing is clear, concise, focussed, structured and backed up by evidence. Its purpose is to aid the reader's understanding. Each subject discipline will have certain writing conventions, vocabulary and types of discourse that you will become familiar with over the course of your degree. _____ (1), there are some general characteristics of academic writing that are relevant across all disciplines.

_____ (2) to writing academically is to clearly define the purpose of the writing and the audience. Most formal academic writing at university is set by, and written for, an academic tutor or assessor, and there should be clear criteria against which they will mark your work. _____ (3) you have a clear idea of what is required for your assignment, you can start planning your research and gathering evidence.

Reference URL: https://library.leeds.ac.uk/info/14011/writing/106/academic_writing

B) *Also, For example, Furthermore, However, Instead, Similarly*

How long should a paragraph be?

In a first draft, it may make sense to set a goal for length. _____ (1), you can set a goal of writing four to six sentences per paragraph: in that number of sentences you can announce an idea, prove that idea with evidence, and explain why this evidence matters by linking it to the overall goal of your paper.

In the final version of your paper you may have a **shorter** paragraph or two. Short paragraphs call a lot of attention to themselves, so they can effectively emphasize a point. Too many short paragraphs, _____ (2), may indicate that your ideas are not developed with evidence and analysis.

You'll generally read and write **longer** paragraphs in academic papers. _____ (3), too many long paragraphs can provide readers with too much information to manage at one time. Readers need planned pauses or breaks when reading long complex papers in order to understand your presented ideas. Remember this writing mantra: "Give your readers a break!" or "Good paragraphs give one pause!"

Kinds of sentences in a paragraph

Thinking about paragraphs rigidly in terms of length may lead to formulaic writing. _____ (4), as you revise your draft think about how each sentence is functioning in your paragraph, and whether your paragraph has sufficient functional sentences to make its point.

Reference URL: <https://meridian.allenpress.com/jgme/article/12/1/1/428757/Envisioning-the-Future-of-Academic-Writing>

*** Here is a paragraph that should be written in a more formal and academic tone. Read it through and underline the parts that need to be rewritten and suggest possible improvements.**

Given the general knowledge of the health risks of smoking, it's for sure that heaps of smokers have tried at some time in their lives to quit. However, in most cases, their attempts are unsuccessful. People begin smoking, often when they're adolescents, for lots of reasons, including the example of parents and pressure from peers. If others in one's group of friends are starting to smoke, it can be hard to resist going along with the crowd. Once people start smoking, they're likely to get hooked. The addiction to smoking is partly physiological; smokers become used to the effects of nicotine and experience painful withdrawal symptoms when they give it up. In addition, people become psychologically dependent on smoking as a way of reducing anxiety and coping with particular situations.

(Adapted from Alison Brown, 2007)

*** Rewrite the following sentences, change the underlined parts of the sentence by using more formal academic language and noun based phrases.**

Many factors are important when talking about how fast the population is growing in developing countries.

Wages growth and labour productivity are both related to the amount of people living per square kilometre in a city.

He is a failure as he can't remember a word, nor does he know why he is going to be executed.

Menzel (1973) has shown that non-speaking chimpanzees can convey where food is located to one another.

It is easiest to list foods and drinks according to the best place that they should be stored.

The week after the patient is admitted appears to be the time when the risk is greatest.

At the point in time that the riots occurred, 36 per cent of the workforce in Handsworth were not working.