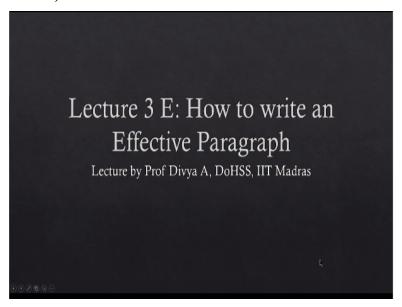
## Short Fiction in Indian Literature Prof. A. Divya Department of Humanities & Social Sciences Indian Institute of Technology-Madras

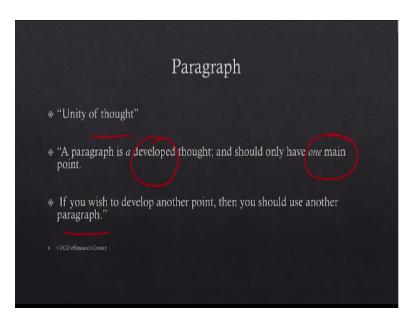
## Lecture-3E How to write an Effective Paragraph

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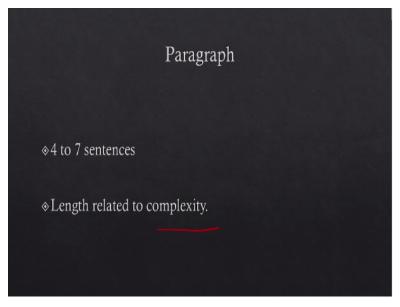
Hello and welcome back, this lecture is titled how to write an effective paragraph, this is a very brief lecture and it will give you some very quick tips on how to construct a effective and powerful paragraph that contains literally analysis okay, what exactly is the paragraph. A paragraph has unity of thought which means it has a single major idea.

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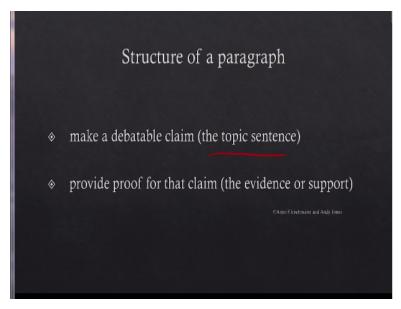
A paragraph is a developed thought and should have only one main point and if you wish to develop another point the best thing to do with be to use another paragraphs. So the general advice is not to include more than 1 different idea within a single paragraph. Because a single paragraph should have a developed and sustained discussion of 1 thought or 1 notion.

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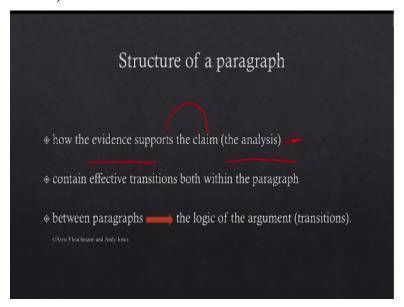
Usually a paragraph runs up to 7 sentences it can be anyway between 4 to 7 sentences but again the length depends on the complexity of the idea that is elaborated or discussed in that particular paragraph.

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Now let us look at the structure of a paragraph especially in relation to literary analysis. So we have to have a debatable claim in a paragraph and that claim that arguable claim will be the topic sentence of that paragraph. So we cannot just again make a claim we need to provide proof for that claim, we need to provide evidence or supporting statements for that claim only then that claim will be proven otherwise it will just be in opinion that cannot be proved.

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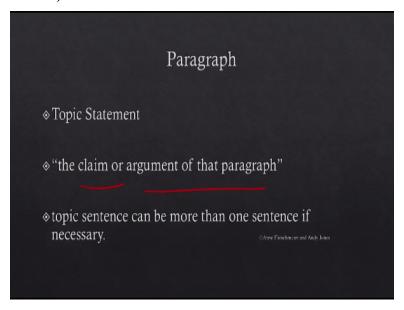


Now we also need to evaluate the evidence in order to strengthen the claim, in order to justify the claim and that would be the analysis part okay. So, it is a very very important aspect of paragraph writing and finally your paragraph should contain effective transitions not only within the

paragraph but also between paragraphs if you are writing an essay and an essay which made up of several paragraphs.

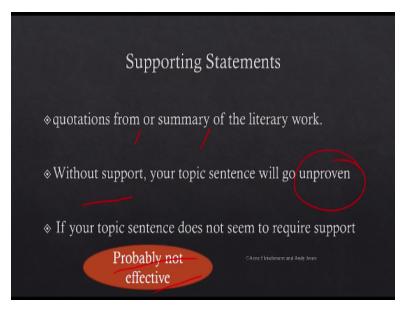
So, between paragraphs we need to include transitions because only the listener between only then the reader would understand the logic of the argument. Otherwise we will have disconnected statements without having the linkages that will hold the paragraph together.

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So, the topic statement, let us look at what exactly is a topic statement once again. The topic statement is the claim or the argument for that paragraph, the claim or the topic statement structures the flow of ideas within the paragraph. And a topic statement can be more than 1 sentence if necessary or else it can just be 1 statement that contains all the major ideas that you want to argue.

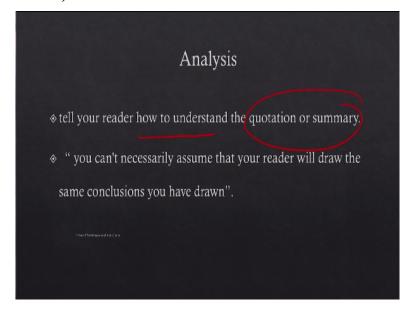
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Now the second section of a paragraph are the supporting statements. The supporting statements can be quotations from or the summary of the literary work. So, you can pick certain interesting quotation or important quotations or offer paraphrases of those quotations as a part of the evidence that you offer to support your claim that is mentioned in the topic statement.

And as I said before without support the topic statement will go unproven and will remain just in opinion. And if you think that your topic statement does not seem to require support then we need to understand that topic statement is probably not an effective one and it does not need a paragraph in the first place okay.

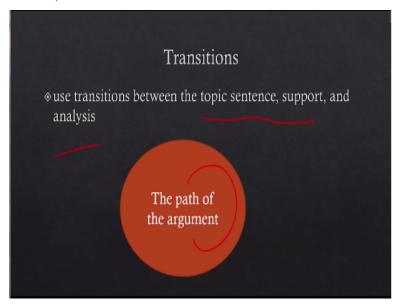
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The analysis the most important section at least for the people who are going to write a literary analysis. So, you need to not only just mention the evidence but also need to interpret the evidence that is very very important because you need to tell the reader how exactly to understand the quotation or a summary. Because there are several interpretations and you want to go for a specific interpretation in order to justify your topic statement.

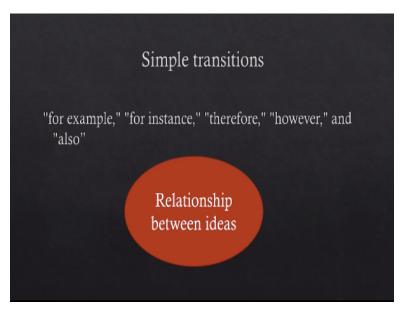
And you cannot necessarily assume that your reader will draw the same conclusions that you have drawn about that particular evidence or that particular quotation that you have mentioned as supporting statement. So, you need to kind of take the reader along with you in that journey. As I said again transitions are key to for an effective paragraph, so they make the paragraphs work really well for any reader.

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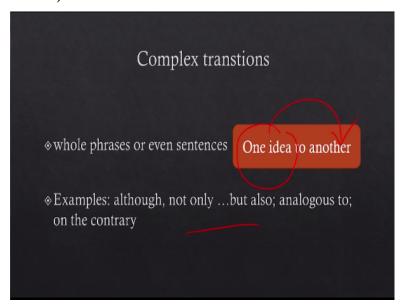
So, use transitions between the topic statement and the supporting statement and the analysis. Because these transitional words and transitional phrases kind of chalk the path of the argument, they show how the argument works they give you the rationale for the supporting documents to be there.

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Some examples of simple transitions are for example, for instance, therefore, however and also and the function of these transitions of very simple. They give you the relationship between ideas that are mentioned in the various statements that are mention one by one within a paragraph. Complex transitions are whole words or even sentences and again they show the relationship between 1 idea or to another in a paragraph.

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And between paragraphs and somewhere interesting complex transitions are not only, but also; analogues to; on the contrary and so on.

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Thank you for watching, I will catch up with you in the next session.