

Building a Paragraph

Name: _____

A paragraph makes one point. The topic sentence states it, the middle proves it, and the last sentence closes it.

Rain gear is worth spending money on. A cheap jacket keeps water out for about twenty minutes, and after that the seams let go and you are wet for the rest of the day. A good one has taped seams, a hood that turns with your head, and cuffs that close. It also lasts: my father's jacket is older than I am. If you walk to school in this country, it is the one piece of clothing worth the extra money.

- 1. Underline the topic sentence.
- 2. How many supporting details are there? List them.

- 3. Now write your own paragraph about something worth spending money on.

Building a Paragraph — Answer Key

1. Rain gear is worth spending money on.
2. Three: cheap jackets fail at the seams; a good one has taped seams, a turning hood and closing cuffs; a good one lasts (the father's jacket).
3. Answers will vary. Look for a clear topic sentence, at least two specific details, and a closing sentence that does not merely repeat the opening.