

Using Details

The sentences in the body (middle) of a paragraph include different kinds of specific details about the topic - facts, reasons, and explanations. Examples are often added to make the ideas clear.

Facts add information.

Topic sentence: **Yesterday, our class had a special visitor.**

Facts: **His name is Charles Hoover. He was born in 1925, and he is 81 years old.**

Reasons answer the question why?

Reason: **He came to explain what life was like here in Montgomery, Alabama, more than 75 years ago.**

Examples: **He told us about old-time cars, Negro baseball leagues, and games he played as a boy.**

Explanations show something.

Reason: **He could tell us a lot about the history of our state.**

Explanation: **That's what we have been studying this month.**

Example: **Mr. Hoover was part of the Selma-to- Montgomery civil rights march in 1965.**



Match the colors for facts, reasons, examples, and explanations to see how details are arranged in the paragraph below.

Yesterday, our class had a special visitor. His name is Charles Hoover. He was born in 1925, and he is 81 years old. He came to explain what life was like here in Montgomery, Alabama, more than 75 years ago. He talked about old-time cars, Negro baseball leagues, and games he played as a boy. He could tell us a lot about the history of our state. That's what we have been studying this month. Mr. Hoover was part of the Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march in 1965.