

Student says:

After reviewing the pages on paragraphs in the OWL, I knew as I drafted my paragraphs I wanted to be sure to focus on topic sentences that would really guide my focus in my paragraphs. I wanted topic sentences that would really “say” something about my topic, and I needed them to be specific in purpose but broad enough to give me some room to develop my ideas. In the example I have here, (highlighted in green) I think I have a good start with topic sentences. I make a point about how the climate impacts the culture in Maine, and the topic of climate gives me a lot to write about as I work to give details for my audience.

I also wanted to have effective transitions. I have highlighted in yellow some of the words I use to transition between sentences, and, at the bottom, I have highlighted in blue my effort to provide a transition to my next paragraph, which will focus on how the people have to adapt physically and financially to such long winters.

I will continue to draft the rest of my body paragraphs with lessons from the Excelsior College Online Writing Lab in mind.