

Illustration Writing: Paragraph Assignment

- Select **one** of the 4 writing prompts from pp 363-366 in Chap 18 and then choose **one** of the topics from the list at the bottom of the page that you know something about and feel capable of writing about
- Do at least **two prewriting activities** (brainstorming, free writing, clustering, mapping, outlining, listing) to help you generate specific, detailed examples for your paragraph – each activity should be a full page in length, handwritten, and attached to your final draft that you turn in to me
- Try to stay in the **3rd person** (he, she, it, they, the text, etc.) as much as possible by shifting the focus off of yourself and onto the actual subject(s) of your paragraph – Be sure to **not** use 2nd person voice (you, your) anywhere in your paragraph
- Aim for **verb consistency**: Proofread your work carefully to make sure all of your verbs are in the same tense throughout the entire paragraph
- Write a minimum of **25 sentences** for your final version
- Use at least **2 of the transition phrases from the list on p 356**
- When you finish your final typed version, check that it adheres to the formatting guidelines outlined on the **Sample formatting page** from the website, and then mark the following with a colored pen or pencil before you turn it in to me:
 1. **Underline** and **label** the topic and the controlling idea in your topic sentence
 2. **Circle** the 2 transition words phrases that you have used
 3. **Number** each new main example you present in your paragraph

Some common transitions (from p. 356):

For example...

Another example is...

To illustrate...

An illustration of this is...

A personal anecdote will illustrate this point...

A case in point is...

Take the case of...

For instance...

To be specific...