

This handout shows an example of written feedback provided to a student on a paragraph, in an appropriate format for an Academic English class.

On page 1, you can see an example of a (pretty terrible) paragraph. On pages 2-3, you can see a good example of good, helpful, and encouraging feedback on that paragraph. (It's also longer than I expect you to write for other students, but I'm trying to be complete.)

On the last page, you can see the notes that I shared in the video that this handout accompanies.

Academic English ____ (SLSC00x-____) : ____ Student Name ____ (Student Number: ____)
2023 (Week 6 Editing Exercise Paragraph)

Never soju
by 안열심

I am never drink a soju. For a lot of reasons.

First reason. I am sick. If I am dranked sojus, the stomach hurts a lot.

I am dizzy and my face become red.

Heart is also fast.

My mother same as me. She's body cannot handle soju. If she drink it, her becomes very sick.

Primary Supporting Sentence 2: Second one the taste is not good.

- Soju very harsh and there are a bad taste.
- If you drink it slow. So many people drink it fastly.
- I taste soju, I felt very sick and unhappy. But my friends love a soju, and say it taste good. Maybe you liek them.

Last, soju is waste your money.

Of course they are not very expensive so you can buy a lot and drink it and not spend very much money but there is anju you have to buy or the shop owner will be mad.

You also have to spend money on taxi or other transportation. You might also spend money on other food. You also have no benefit from soju. You need food to live, but we don't need any soju for live.

In fact, it waste your health and your money the same time. Maybe it's fun though.

CONCLUDING SENTENCE: Many reasons you should never drink soju.

Paragraph Feedback for “Never soju” by Yeolshim Ahn

By Kim Kongbu

Dear Yeolshim,

I think you have the beginning of a good paragraph about why you don't drink soju. However, if you fix some problems in a few areas, I think it will help improve your paragraph a lot!

I'll discuss the problems in the following categories:

General reaction:

I am not sure I agree with all of your ideas, but I thought what you wrote was interesting. I could understand almost everything clearly, even the parts I disagreed with. It was interesting to hear your opinion, even if I disagree with some of it.

Structure:

I think the structure is mostly good, except for one thing, but the formatting is needs a *lot* of work.

First, I'll talk about the “one thing” I mentioned: that is the sentence “Maybe it's fun though.” I don't think this sentence fits in your paragraph. You are explaining why you don't drink soju, so this is not related. (Especially because soju doesn't sound very fun for you.)

But the main problem with structure is formatting. You left some unnecessary material from your Paragraph Skeleton (like the label “**Primary Supporting Sentence 2:**” and you also left some bullet points (right after this line). You also pressed enter after almost every sentence. I think when you converted your Paragraph Skeleton to a paragraph, you forgot to remove those “line breaks.” Remember, a paragraph is supposed to be ONE block of text. So, for example, the first few lines should look like this:

I am never drink a soju. For a lot of reasons. First reason. I am sick. If I am dranked sojus, the stomach hurts a lot. I am dizzy and my face become red. Heart is also fast.

While I mention formatting, I will also point out that you're supposed to write your name in Roman Letters (in “English”) after the title, not in Hangeul. You

also didn't edit any of the information in the header of the document, like your student name, student number, the class number and section, the date, etc.

Grammar:

Grammar is definitely the biggest problem area in your paragraph. I found problems with many areas. The biggest problems were in the following areas:

- **Simple Present Negation** ("I am never drink" should be "I never drink" for example).
- Some sometimes mix up **Verb Tense**: "If I am dranked sojus" is a strange mix of present and past tense, for example.
- **Possessive Pronouns**: You use "she's" instead of "her" (she's = "she is," not the possessive)
- You're missing a lot of commas! You especially forget to include them after the Introductory Words/Phrases in your Primary Supporting Sentences, like "First," and "Second."
- Also, you don't correctly use **Introductory Words and Phrases**: for example, in the first Primary Supporting Sentence, you use "First reason." This is a sentence fragment, but even if you change the period to a comma, it's incorrect. You should either use "First," or "The first reason is that." (I would use "First," with a comma, because it's shorter and easier to read.)
- You have quite a few **Sentence Fragments**: that is, a lot of sentences that are not complete sentences.
- After the third **Primary Supporting Sentence**, a lot of your sentences have the same structure: they start with "You," and are simple sentences. I would try to change the structure, by using a different type of sentence (Complex) to make it more varied.

Focus:

The quickest thing to fix would be to finish converting your paragraph to a single block of text. Remove the line breaks.

After that, I'd spend time checking each sentence one at a time to remove Sentence Fragments, and maybe to fix verb tense problems. These are both important because they make the paragraph harder to understand. It will help make your interesting ideas easier for people to see!

Good luck!

Notes on the Peer Feedback Process

“the blind leading the blind”?

1. Notice their mistakes more than your own.
2. Practicing expressing those mistakes in speech.
3. Finding problems vs. Choosing solutions.

How do we read for feedback?

1. General reaction: **Was it interesting? Was it clear?**
2. Structure: **Does this paragraph have a good structure? Intro (Topic Sentence), Body, Conclusion? Is everything here for a good reason? Is everything that is needed present? Can I see the Primary Supporting Sentences easily? How about formatting?**
3. Grammar: **On the sentence level, is the grammar correct? (How about punctuation? How about capitalization?)**
4. Focus: **What is one big change that could help make everything better quickly?**

TAKE NOTES!!!!!!

MAKE SUGGESTIONS.

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU.