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| Criteria for Paragraph | Needs Work | Okay--Could Be Better | Strong—No Weakness |
| There is a clear topic sentence. |  |  |  |
| The topic sentence is not too general or too narrow. |  |  |  |
| There are at least three details—examples or data--supporting information that relates to the topic sentence. |  |  |  |
| The details develop the main idea and are not too general. |  |  |  |
| There is no extra information that leads off in a direction other than the topic. |  |  |  |
| There is a concluding sentence (when the paragraph is long, in particular.) |  |  |  |
| Transition words are used to make the sentences tie together and flow easily. |  |  |  |
| Sentences are complete and make sense. |  |  |  |
| Grammar is correct. |  |  |  |
| Punctuation is correct. |  |  |  |