

CERC

Claim Evidence Reason Conclusion

CLAIM

- It is the TOPIC SENTENCE
- It introduces the main idea of the paragraph.
- It states your position/belief.
 - It is the FIRST or SECOND sentence of a paragraph.
 - A great lead to capture the reader's interest can and should come first.



EVIDENCE



Evidence supports your argument and helps it gain strength. Evidence can be any sort of information that supports claims that the writer makes.

- You must provide at least 2 examples of evidence.
 - It begins to form the body of the paragraph.
 - It supports the claim
 - It is support from your text.



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REASON

- Elaboration Sentence #1
 - This explains your evidence.
 - This sentence is from your head (the reasoning part).



EVIDENCE

- Detail Sentence #2
 - Another piece of evidence which forms the body of the paragraph.
 - It supports the claim
 - It is support from your text.



REASON

- Elaboration Sentence #2
 - This explains your evidence.
 - This sentence is from your head (the reasoning part).



EVIDENCE

- Detail Sentence #3
 - The last piece of evidence which forms the body of the paragraph.
 - It supports the claim
 - It is support from your text.



REASON

- Elaboration Sentence #3
 - This explains your evidence.
 - This sentence is from your head (the reasoning part).



CONCLUSION

A **CERC** should end with a summary of the most essential details of the claim and evidence. It affirms once again what the reader is to believe or do. You might want to conclude with a question, a prediction, a recommendation, or a quotation.

- It is the LAST sentence of the paragraph.
- It restates the Main Idea of the Claim using different words.



TRANSITIONS

TRANSITIONS SEND A STRONG NOTICEABLE SIGNAL THAT THE NEXT IDEA OR DETAIL IS COMING.

EXAMPLES:

first	second	third	likewise
Next	another	finally	in addition
last	one	then	along with
secondly	thirdly	also	therefore
initially	additionally	to begin with	

TRANSITION SETS

MANY PARAGRAPHS USE TRANSITION
WORD SETS THAT HELP THE PARAGRAPH
FLOW MORE SMOOTHLY

EXAMPLES:

First....Second....Third... First....Another....Next
One....Another....Finally.... One....Then....Another
First...In addition....Equally important....
To start....Furthermore....Additionally....Lastly....
In the first place....After that....Later on....At last....

SAMPLE

- St. Lawrence School has an outstanding staff. First of all, the teachers are dedicated professionals to their lessons. They work hard at preparing worthwhile activities for students to learn such as web quests and experiments. In addition, they spend a great deal of time learning themselves because teachers value education. All St. Lawrence teachers attend conferences, seminars, workshops, and graduate classes. Furthermore, The St. Lawrence staff work to provide students with a safe, respectful, and responsible environment. They are trained in the procedures to follow in case of an emergency and value their role in preparing young minds for the future. The St. Lawrence staff is exceptional and love their jobs and their students.

CERC Paragraph

**How do our lava lamps and
the paper dot demo
resemble convection currents
in our Earth's interior?**

CERC Paragraph

Claim (Topic Sentence): I claim that the lava lamp and the paper dot lab are examples of the process of convection.

What do we know about
convection currents from
reading our text book?
This will be our evidence

Evidence 1 (**Information to support claim**): First,
intense heat from the core and the mantle heat
up the rock around it.

What did we see happening in our two labs?
This will be our reasoning.

Paper dot lab

Lava Lamp Lab

Reasoning 1 (The “Why”): The chemical reaction between the water and the tablet created bubbles. The more dense water moved through the less dense oil.

Evidence 2: Second, in a convection current, the less dense liquid rises and the more dense liquid sinks.

Reasoning 2: In our lava lamp lab, as the water rose to the top, it became more dense and sunk back to the bottom. This cycle continued until the tablet dissolved.

You are responsible from evidence 3 and reasoning 3.

Evidence 3: (think change in temperature for convection currents)

Reasoning 3: (think of the paper dot demo)

Conclusion (Restate your claim):

In conclusion,.....

- Using the CERC format, please compose a paragraph answering this question:
 - How are our lava lamps and the paper dot demo alike and different from convection currents in the outer core and mantle?
 - Please state 3 facts (similarities or differences) and give a reasoning for each fact.
 - Begin your paragraph with an opening statement: Lava lamps and the paper dot demo are a good example of convection currents.
 - End your paragraph with a concluding statement: In conclusion, our lava lamps and paper dot demo....

Words to use in your paragraph

- Convection current
- Heat
- Less dense – rises
- More dense – sinks
- Gravity