Basic Cues

- Thesis and Forecasting statements
- Paragraphing
- Cohesive devices
- Transitions
Thesis Statement

- “Announces the main point” of an essay (St Martin p. 524).
- Everything in the essay must relate.
- “When overzealous parents and coaches impose adult standards on children’s sports, the result can be activities that are neither satisfying nor beneficial to children.” (“Children Need to Play not Compete” Jessica Statsky. St Martin p. 237).
Forecasting statement

- Sets up the major points of the essay
- Often part of the thesis statement.
- The campus policy one tobacco use protects non-users, discourages tobacco use, and saves money.
Paragraphing

- Paragraph: a group of sentences that develops a single thought.
- Topic sentence: A sentence that expresses the main point of a paragraph. (Often relates to the previous paragraph or thesis.)
- Paragraph body: sentences that support the topic sentence.
Good Paragraphs

- Unify around a single idea
- Have coherence or cohesion: the quality of holding the ideas together and moving the reader from point to point.
- Have sufficient support for the topic sentence.
## Essays and Paragraphs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays</th>
<th>Paragraphs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Thesis sets up the essay.</td>
<td>• Topic sentence sets up the structure of the paragraph.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The thesis is supported by paragraphs.</td>
<td>• The topic sentence is supported by the sentences in the paragraph.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Transitions often sentences. (Topic sentences transition paragraphs.)</td>
<td>• Transitions often words</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Cohesive devices

- Pronoun reference
- Word repetition
- Synonyms
- Sentence structure repetition
- Collocation
Pronoun reference

- Pronouns hold ideas together by referring back to an antecedent.
- The explorers moved into a new chamber in the cavern. The enormity of the chamber took their breath away.
Word repetition

- The repeated word holds the sentences together.
- The explorers moved into a new chamber in the cavern. The enormity of the chamber took their breath away.
Synonyms, words that mean nearly the same thing, hold sentences together because the second synonym references the previous synonym.

Television added very little with the introduction of cable access. The media presents mostly biased analysis masking as news and inane reality shows.
Sentence structure

- Parallelism
- The book revealed little new information, was difficult to read, and had questionable sources.
- Repeated words in similar grammatical structure.
- Example page 532.
Collocation

- Words that are associated with a topic.
- Example page 532
Transitions

- Words or sentences that move the reader from idea to idea.
- Types:
  - Logical relationships
  - Temporal
  - Spatial
Logical Relationships

- Series: first, second, next
- Illustration: for example
- Result or cause: as a result
- Restatement: in other words
- Conclusion: finally, in conclusion
- Opposition: however
- Concession: granted
Temporal (time)

- Frequency: seldom, often
- Duration: briefly, for an extended time
- Particular time: now then
- Beginning: at first
- Middle: in the meantime
- End: finally
Spatial (space)

- Close: next to, near
- Distance: beyond
- Direction: above, up/ down
Cues

- Thesis
- Paragraphing
- Cohesive devices
- transitions