

arms and hence they engage themselves in serious clashes. Moreover, the political activities of students badly destroy their academic career. So when we think of student politics, we must think of both its good and evil.

**2. Read the following paragraphs and insert a context modulator in each if and where it is necessary:-**

a) The plan of the village school was good but unsuccessful. If it had been implemented, the small children would not have to walk to the distant school of the neighbouring village. As a result, more children would take the chance of educating themselves. The first reason of its failure is that the members of the governing body of the proposed school were divided in their opinions. Secondly, the villagers could not ensure the requisite financial support for the implementation of the programme. That is why the hopes for having a new school could not materialise.

b) An arranged marriage has its advantages and disadvantages. The first happy thing about it is that you can please your guardians by marrying a man/woman of their choice. Secondly, you can expect that the selection of your spouse by your guardians, will be more reasonable than yours. Moreover, you can enjoy the thrill of meeting an unknown person after your marriage. The first problem is that you yourself may feel unhappy if the guardians do not value your opinion. Secondly, in most cases arranged marriages are determined by a dowry which causes sheer unhappiness in the married life. Moreover, the spouses previously unknown to each other may find it very difficult to build up a mental adjustment. We can, therefore, see that arranged marriages have both merits and demerits.

## 6

### TECHNIQUES OF PARAGRAPH DEVELOPMENT

‘Techniques of Paragraph Development’ refers to the various methods of developing a topic sentence into a well organised paragraph. In other words, it refers to the organisation of the developers in a paragraph. You should remember that this organisation of the developers depends on their function and is determined by the controlling idea of the paragraph. For example, “Qualities of a Good Teacher” is a topic suggestion and if you are asked to write a paragraph on it, your topic sentence will probably be “A good teacher should have at least five qualities” or something like this. Obviously, ‘five qualities’ is your controlling idea which suggests that in the developers you are required to make a list of five different qualities a good teacher should possess. And this listing of things maintaining the sequence in a logical order is one of the techniques of paragraph development. You should arrange or organise your developers in such a way as to make them look like a list. In the same way, if the function of your developers is to make a comparison between two things, you should use the technique of comparison to organise your developers. As the functions of the developers in different kinds of paragraphs are different, the techniques to be used in them will also be different.

Here are two paragraphs showing two different techniques:

#### Foreign Words in English

(a) There are numerous English words which have non-English origins. For example, while relaxing at home, Americans sometimes wear *kimonos* which is a Japanese word. People living in a temperate climate may often take an



**afternoon siesta without even realizing that this is a Spanish word. They often enjoy the fragrance of jasmine in their garden without knowing that this word came into English from Persian. There are many such English words that have come from other languages.**

## European and American University Systems

**(b) There are two main differences between the European and American University systems. In European Universities, students are not required to attend classes but in the United States class attendance is compulsory. Secondly, in the European system, students have to take just one comprehensive examination at the end of their entire course. While in America students are given numerous tests and homework assignments during their course and also there is always a final examination at the end of the semester. So the European University system is different from the American University system both with respect to their students' class attendance and examination systems.**

In the first paragraph, the word 'numerous' in the topic sentence suggests that you are not expected to give a full list of the English words of foreign origin. What you should do in this case is to give a few examples of such words. In fact, the three developers in the paragraph have strongly supported the topic statement. We can, therefore, say that this paragraph has been developed by following the method of giving examples and hence this may be called an example paragraph. On the other hand, the second paragraph has made a contrast between two categories of universities. It has been mentioned in the topic sentence that the developers below will make only two points

of dissimilarity between the European and American University systems. Obviously, this paragraph has been developed by using the method of contrast. So this is called a contrast paragraph.

In fact, there are many techniques of paragraph development and hence many kinds of paragraph. You must have noticed that the appellation of a paragraph depends on the technique used in its development. In the following chapters, you will be introduced to these ten major kinds of paragraph.

- i) The list paragraph
- ii) The example paragraph
- iii) The comparison paragraph
- iv) The contrast paragraph
- v) The comparison and contrast paragraph
- vi) The definition paragraph
- vii) The classification paragraph
- viii) The cause-and-effect paragraph
- ix) The description paragraph
- x) The narration paragraph

## MAIN POINTS

- i) The technique to be used in a paragraph depends on the function of the developers.
- ii) It is determined by the controlling idea of the paragraph.
- iii) A paragraph is named after its technique of development.

## VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT

- appellation** – name or title; system of names  
**comprehensive** – that includes many things together  
**contrast** – act of comparison to show the differences.  
**fragrance** – sweet or pleasing smell  
**jasmine** – a kind of flower



**kimonos** – lounging robe; long, loose outer garment worn for comfort

**numerous** – great in number

**organisation** – systematic arrangement

**relax** – become free from nervous anxiety and tension

**siesta** – short afternoon sleep

**temperate** – free from extremes of heat and cold

## The List Paragraph

A list paragraph is one which is developed by applying the technique of listing. The developers in this kind of paragraph make a list of the things mentioned in the controlling idea of the topic sentence. Sometimes the developers are divided into two groups to make two different lists. In that case, a modulator is essential to come between them.

There is no hard and fast rule as to how many items are to be listed in a list paragraph. However, a medium sized paragraph generally contains three to six items on one list. Whatever way be the number of items, you should remember that your list paragraph should not resemble a shopping list like this.

### Qualities of a Good Actress

A good actress should possess the following qualities:

1. A handsome figure
2. Glamour
3. Good voice
4. Acting skill
5. Power of perception

In fact, this is not a paragraph, not a piece of composition. Although all the expected things are listed here, the way they are done is not appropriate. In order to avoid this shopping list appearance, you should put the things in sentence forms and they should also be joined together with the help of linkers and connectors. Read the following paragraph and see how the listing is done:

### Qualities of a Good Actress

A good actress should have at least five basic qualities. First of all, she should have an attractive figure. Secondly, she should have