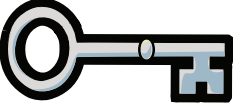






Elements of an Informative/Explanatory Paragraph

<p>Organization and Planning</p> 	<p>Organization is the key. Use Traffic Light colors to plan a paragraph.</p>
<p>Introduction (green) + (blue)</p> 	<p>Topic sentences are the heart. Use green to remember that the topic sentence tells readers what you are <i>going</i> to explain.</p>
<p>Key/Star Ideas and Transitions (yellow)</p> 	<p>Transitions are the glue for the key/star ideas. Use yellow to remind yourself to <i>slow down</i> and make smooth, clear transitions when you introduce a new key/star idea.</p>
<p>Elaboration (red)</p> 	<p>Examples and explanation are the meat. Use red to remind yourself to <i>stop</i> and explain. Examples and explanation support your key/star ideas.</p>
<p>Conclusion (green)</p> 	<p>Conclusions tie it all together with a ribbon. Use green again. Remember to <i>go back</i> to your topic. A good conclusion reminds readers of the purpose of your paragraph.</p>