

**General**

The body of the essay/report is the main part, made up of lots of paragraphs. The thesis statement has already given some idea of the main areas<sup>1</sup> that these paragraphs will focus on.

**Topic sentence<sup>2</sup>**

This is a sentence that gives the main point of your whole paragraph. It is often the first sentence. For a short essay like this, you could relate it to the title (eg 'success' and 'successful'). For longer essays, you could do this after every few paragraphs.

**Details<sup>3</sup> and proof<sup>4</sup>**

Next, you give details about your main point/topic. Then provide proof to support this. Here, the writer uses a statistic from a book by Neilson.

**Concluding sentence<sup>5</sup>**

Last, you can sum up the main point. Again, for a short essay like this, you often relate it to the title. For longer essays, only do this after every few paragraphs.

**Linking sentence<sup>6</sup>**

You could start a body paragraph with a linking sentence before the topic sentence. It refers to the previous paragraph, so it often includes words like 'such' and 'this'. You should do this if it makes things easier to follow.

**Progression**

Look at the last two paragraphs for more examples of the above. In academic writing, you do repeat things – in the thesis statement, the topic sentences etc, so the skill is to be clear, but not too repetitive. Style helps here; using a variety of grammar and vocabulary.

**Has the Euro been successful?**

In January 2002, the Euro was finally introduced across Europe as the common currency of 12 member states. It was a hugely ambitious project, and though it is too early to say for definite if it will be a success or not, it is nevertheless useful to judge its performance so far. To do this, this essay will look at the Euro in terms of its impact on individuals<sup>1</sup>, and then in terms of its impact on governments<sup>1</sup>.

**Topic sentence**

**Details and proof**

For many people, the actual introduction of the Euro was an undoubted success<sup>2</sup>. It was a massive operation<sup>3</sup> to switch from various currencies to a single one, and most commentators, and also the public, believe that the operation went smoothly<sup>3</sup>. Various surveys back this point up, with public support in the Netherlands for example put at 72%<sup>4</sup> in the early months of this year (Neilson, 2001). In terms of logistics, therefore, the Euro has to be judged a success<sup>5</sup>.

**Concluding sentence**

**Linking sentence**

However, this early public support has not been maintained<sup>6</sup>. For many people across Europe, the introduction of the Euro has led to price rises in many everyday goods. In Germany, for example, restaurant prices have risen by as much as 33%, and in supermarket goods by 21% (Clarke, 2002). This has been repeated across Europe, and in Netherlands for example, consumers feel so strongly on the issue that now, 98% of the population would prefer to return to their old money (Clarke, 2002). Even though inflation, a much more reliable indicator of price rises, has actually remained stable, people, rightly or wrongly, feel the Euro has failed them, at least when it comes to their daily shopping.

Finally, there is the impact of the Euro on governments. To harmonise the various economies, the 'Stability Pact' was introduced, largely at the insistence of Germany. Under this, no country can have a deficit of more than 3% of its GDP. However, this particular rule has caused problems for many countries, ironically for Germany especially. For a variety of reasons, Germany wants to commit to large scale spending, but the terms of the pact prevent it from doing so. It is not alone. Portugal, France and Italy are also having problems abiding by the agreement. All of this suggests that perhaps the Euro and all that it entails, is fundamentally flawed as presently established, and needs radical reform to be successful.