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# Writing an AEC Paragraph

— Baldwin | English 9 —

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# What Does “AEC” Stand For?

<b>A</b>	<b><u>A</u>ssertion</b> : What’s your <b>answer</b> ? (topic sentence)
<b>E</b>	<b><u>E</u>vidence</b> : cite specific <b>examples</b> (prove it)
<b>C</b>	<b><u>C</u>ommentary</b> : explain <b>why</b> the evidence proves the assertion (back it up)

# Assertion Statement

- A statement that answers the question asked in the prompt
- Otherwise known as your claim
- Everything in the paragraph should be used to prove your assertion

# Evidence

- Otherwise known as examples
- These examples are the quotes or paraphrased information taken from the text to prove your assertion. They serve as your support.

# Commentary

- Otherwise known as analysis
- This should be where you elaborate/explain how your evidence is crucial in proving that your assertion is true

# Example Paragraph #1

The ONN uses jargon to satirize Miley Cyrus's exposure in the media by using terms that make it seem as if Miley Cyrus is a resource. The reporters on the ONN do this by claiming, "Within two years, she'll be little more than a withered, desiccated husk, incapable of causing anyone any amusement at all." By using this terminology, they make a comparison between Miley Cyrus and actual resources like oil, saying that she will eventually burn out and won't be worth anything. It makes fun of the point that Miley's fans obsess way too much about her and that over time, they will get sick of her and discard her. The ONN also uses jargon to satirize other teen icons, by saying that "they were bountiful entertainment resources that our over-consumption reduced to smoldering remnants. But we are burning through Miley at a far more aggressive rate." Wording their statement this way makes the comparison that these former teen stars have all been overused and exhausted, just a resource would be. This makes it humorous because it's ridiculous to compare people to tangible resources, but in this case it applies so well that it's funny.

Assertion

Evidence

Commentary

Evidence

Commentary

## Example Paragraph #2

Jack of Diamonds is characterized as an obnoxious, bullying, spoiled child. The author states, "Jack of Diamonds would have been a handsome boy if not for his bullying personality and for the fact that he had the biggest, roundest rear end in Wonderland" (Beddor 33). This absurd physical trait is reflective of Jack's inner ugliness. He constantly looks for opportunities to wield his wealth and status.

# AEC Paragraph Expected Format

CPR: Paragraph should include:

- Assertion Statement
- Evidence #1 with Commentary
- Evidence #2 with Commentary
- Concluding Sentence

\*Every paragraph needs at least two pieces of evidence with commentary for each.

CPA: Paragraph should include:

- Assertion Statement
- Evidence #1 with Commentary
- Evidence #2 with Commentary
- Evidence #3 with Commentary
- Concluding Sentence

\*Every paragraph needs at least three pieces of evidence with commentary for each.