

## Expanded Paragraph - Sentence Outline (EXAMPLE)

**Subject:** "Pledge of Allegiance"

**Focused Topic:** Being required to say it in class

**Point of View:** We shouldn't have to say it every morning

**Topic Sentence:** Students should not be required to say the Pledge of Allegiance each morning.

**Supporting detail 1:** First of all, "The Pledge of Allegiance" says, "one nation under God"; however, not every student believes in God.

**Expanded detail 1a:** Every time we come to that part, I feel uncomfortable, and I never say the words because I am an atheist, and I don't believe in God.

**Expanded detail 1b:** I'm also sure that there are students who believe in God, and they shouldn't have to pretend like they do.

**Supporting detail 2:** Another reason why we shouldn't be forced to say "The Pledge of Allegiance" is because it's unpatriotic.

**Expanded detail 2a:** Our country was founded on the ideals of liberty and freedom.

**Expanded detail 2b:** How free are we as citizens if we are forced to say a pledge every morning?

**Supporting detail 3:** Finally, I shouldn't have to say the pledge because I don't think our country always acts in a way that makes me proud.

**Expanded detail 3a:** Sometimes I'm embarrassed by the things that our government does, such as bombing civilian areas in foreign countries.

**Expanded detail 3b:** I also think that some of the rich people in this country have more "liberty and justice for all" than the some of poor people do, and that doesn't seem right.

**Concluding sentence:** In conclusion, although I love my country very much, I think there are better ways to show it than by being made to repeat a pledge every morning.

## Expanded Paragraph - Sentence Outline

**Subject:** (What are you supposed to write about?)

**Focused Topic:** (How are you going to narrow it down?)

**Point of View:** (What's your reaction/position/point of view towards the topic?)

**Topic Sentence:** (topic + point of view + clear & specific)

**Supporting Detail 1:** (the first fact, reason, or example in support of the topic sentence)

**Expanded Detail 1a:** (commentary, elaboration, or explanation of detail #1)

**Expanded Detail 1b:** (further commentary, elaboration, or explanation of detail #1)

**Supporting Detail 2:** (the second fact, reason, or example in support of the topic sentence)

**Expanded Detail 2a:** (commentary, elaboration, or explanation of detail #2)

**Expanded Detail 2b:** (further commentary, elaboration, or explanation of detail #2)

**Supporting Detail 3:** (the third fact, reason, or example in support of the topic sentence)

**Expanded Detail 3a:** (commentary, elaboration, or explanation of detail #3)

**Expanded Detail 3b:** (further commentary, elaboration, or explanation of detail #3)

**Concluding Sentence:** (sum up, reflect or give a personal statement about the topic; *not always needed in an essay body paragraph*)