Paragraph Structure

1BDF Purpose?

Organization-unity- 1 idea per paragraph-

How?

Indent, topic sentence, support, conclusion

2ACE—

Fluent sentences Organization—chrono.

Intro and conclusion

One idea-“unity and coherence and sequence”

Indent

**\*Claim- Topic Sentence(s), argument, mini-thesis,**

**Steering wheel for the whole paragraph.**

**Evidence-quotes, specific details, examples, anecdotes (story), case study, statistics.**

**Interpretation-your thinking, explanation, analysis. How your examples support your claim.**

**Conclusion- Sum up, (why is this all important?) and transition**

**Alice Walker uses pastoral imagery and playful diction to establish Myop’s innocence and nearsightedness in the opening lines of “The Flowers”. Myop’s unusual name itself draws attention to her limited vision and challenges the reader to deduce the extent of her impairment. As the narrator reveals that, “It seemed … that the days had never been as beautiful as these,” the use of the verb “seem” suggests that the protagonist is unable to know for certain the reality of her world, perhaps because of her lack of sight. The imagery, too, evokes senses other than sight: the “keenness” of the air, the taste of “peanuts and squash”, “the beat of a song” that Myop creates herself while tapping her stick against a fence. As harmless as they seem, these idyllic and vague descriptions help to reinforce the idea that what makes Myop’s day so perfect is her inability to fully appreciate the reality of her surroundings, a failing that is emphasized when the narrator observes that, “nothing existed for her but her song…”. The simplicity of the scene coupled with Myop’s yet untarnished innocence, creates dramatic tension as the reader implicitly understands that if there is to be a story, this young girl must have her perfect day shattered.**

Alice Walker uses the contrasting symbols of a “wild pink rose” and “the rotted remains of a noose” to create irony and to complete Myop’s transformation from a naïve and, at least metaphorically, nearsighted young lady to a knowing, observant, and compassionate young adult.