

Literary Paragraphs

A literary paragraph usually describes or explores one aspect of a single story or poem. It follows a basic structure and can be written the same way every time.

Structure: a literary paragraph can be broken up into 4 sections – each section is usually between 1 and 3 sentences each.

First Section: Introduction – Author, Story, Summary

Second Section: Thesis – your argument/what you are going to talk about – this sentence answers the prompt.

Third Section: Support – explanation and elaboration with passages (quotes) from the story. You should try to have at least 2 really good passages.

Fourth Section: Conclusion.

Example: **Discuss the most important symbol in *The Hockey Sweater*.**

Symbol – “**The Hockey Sweater**”

- **Passion**
 - All the boys had a common idol and a common routine
 - “We all wore the same uniforms as he, the red, white, and blue uniform”
 - “We all combed our hair in the same style”
- **Loyalty**
 - At the sight of the Toronto Maple Leafs sweater Carrier was furious!
 - Montreal Canadiens is his team.
 - “I’ll never wear it”
 - “I experienced a very great sorrow”
- **Rivalry**
 - The age old rivalry between two of the six original teams: Toronto vs. Montreal.
 - “It was unfair! It was persecution! It was because of my blue sweater!”
 - “Just because you’re wearing a new Toronto Maple Leafs sweater unlike the other, doesn’t mean you’re going to make the laws around here.”
 - “I asked [God] to send, as quickly as possible, moths that would eat up my Toronto Maple Leafs sweater.”

Student

Ms. Citton

EN 9

17 November 2013

More than a Sweater

“The Hockey Sweater” by Roch Carrier is about a young boy and his love for the Montreal Canadiens and Maurice Richard. When he grows out of his Habs jersey, Carrier’s mother writes to Monsieur Eaton who sends him a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey – a huge disappointment. There are a few symbols in this story. The most important symbol is the Canadien’s hockey sweater which represents passion, loyalty, and rivalry. At the beginning of the story, the narrator describes his childhood passion: hockey. All the boys would gather on the hockey rink where “real life” and “real strength” were. They all “wore the same uniforms as [Maurice Richard], the red, white and blue uniform.” When Carrier receives a Toronto Maple Leafs sweater in the mail, he experiences “a very great sorrow.” His loyalty is revealed in declaration, “I’ll never wear that uniform.” Carrier and his friends have always worn the “red, white, and blue sweater.” However, on the ice, when he is forced to wear his TML jersey, the age old rivalry between two of the six original teams: Toronto vs. Montreal comes to life. The coach doesn’t let Carrier play because of his sweater, and the referee gives Carrier a penalty because he “claimed [he’d] jumped on the ice when there were already five players.” Carrier gets angry and proclaims that “it was unfair! It was persecution.” Clearly the hockey sweater symbolizes passion, loyalty, and rivalry.