

Writing's Three Parts

All writing consists of three parts: a centralizing aspect; the structuring of sections into a whole that support that central aspect; specifics that illustrate the overall ideas of the piece. We can summarize these three parts in the following way:

1. Focal point
2. Sections
3. Specifics

Focal Point

Thesis (implied or stated): Used in critical writing

Argument: Used in persuasive writing from editorials to advertising

Tone, mood or atmosphere: Used in impressionistic writing

Theme: Used predominantly in impressionistic and reportage pieces

Sections

Points: Abstract statements used to support theses or arguments

Chapters, stanzas and paragraphs: Used to group and separate major and minor ideas

Topic sections: Used mostly in reportage to divide articles into sub-sections

Steps: Mostly used in informational pieces to break a process down into chronological stages

Specifics

Anecdotes: Short stories or narratives

Facts: Mathematical or scientific statements

Quotes: Word-for-word statements

Summary: Informational passages

Imagery: Actions or objects that appeal to the senses

Rhetorical devices: Figures of speech, sound devices and phrasings that attach abstract meanings to concrete specifics

Commentary: Inductions made about any of the above