

THE UPSIDE-DOWN TRAFFIC LIGHTS PARAGRAPH

A paragraph is like an upside-down traffic light. When the light turns **green**, you START. When the light turns **yellow**, you SLOW DOWN. And when the light turns **red**, you STOP. You need the whole traffic light to give you direction, and you need all the parts of a paragraph to tell a story.

Topic Sentence (**green**)

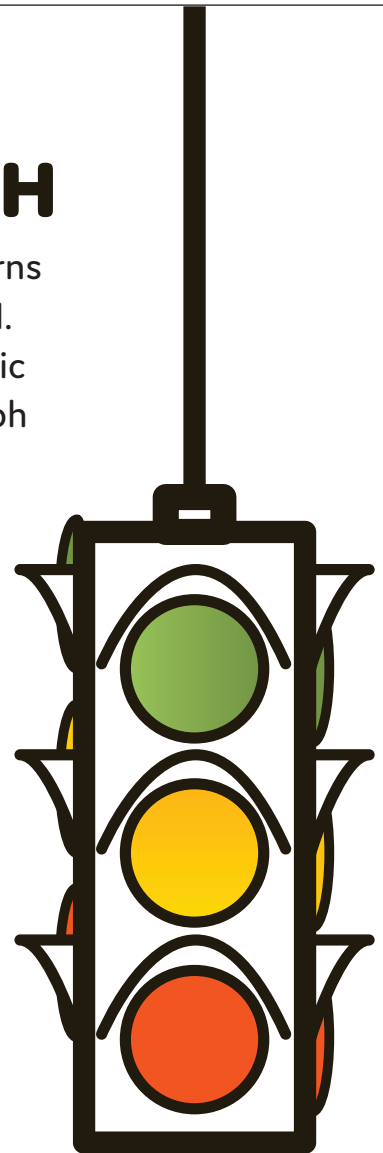
Tells the main idea.

Supporting Sentences (**yellow**)

Give details about the main idea.

Closing Sentence (**red**)

Ends the paragraph and repeats the main idea.



DIRECTIONS: Read the paragraph below. Circle the topic sentence in **green**, supporting sentences in **yellow**, and the closing sentence in **red**.

The ocean is home to many animals. Whales, fish, and crabs are only a few examples of the many colorful creatures that live in the ocean. There are many other animals that don't live in the ocean but use it to find food. It is important that we take care of our oceans by keeping our beaches clean. Protecting our oceans takes care of the many animals that live in the waters and nearby.