**Directions:** Use this graphic organizer to organize your body paragraph. When the outline is complete, you are ready to write your first draft.

**Body Paragraph**

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| **Topic Sentence** – The TOPIC SENTENCE tells the reader the main idea of the paragraph. When writing a single paragraph, include the title, author, and genre of the story you are writing about in this sentence. |
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| **Context** – CONTEXT is used to inform the reader about the events leading up to the passage you will quote from the book. CONTEXT should include the *who*, *what*, *where*, and *when* of the scene. |
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| **Concrete Detail #1** – CONCRETE DETAILS are passages from the story that are used to prove the thesis statement. |
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| **Commentary #1** – The first sentence of COMMENTARY should explain how concrete detail #1 demonstrates the subject of your thesis. |
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| **Commentary #2** – The second sentence of COMMENTARY should explain how concrete detail #1 helps to prove the argument of your thesis statement. |
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| **Transition and Context** – Use a transition word or phrase and then begin the CONTEXT that leads in to concrete detail #2. |
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| **Concrete Detail #2** – CONCRETE DETAILS should be presented in the order they appear in the story. |
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| **Commentary #1** –Explain how concrete detail #2 demonstrates the subject of your thesis. |
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| **Commentary #2** – Explain how concrete detail #2 helps to prove the argument of your thesis statement. |
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| **Closing Sentence** – The CLOSING SENTENCE summarizes the main idea of the paragraph. |
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