

Internal Conflict Essay Sample Body Paragraph

As you read the sample body paragraph below, annotate it for the qualities of a good body paragraph. Ask yourself: What makes this paragraph good and effective? What does it do well? What do I need to be sure to duplicate when I write my own body paragraphs?

One way that Avi uses internal conflict to build interest is by leaving the reader in suspense about whether or not Ms. Narwin will be able to continue in the profession she so loves. Ms. Narwin clearly is conflicted about whether or not to remain a teacher after the scandal with Philip and the national anthem has hit the media. Mr. Duval, the reporter who interviews her, asks her what she will do about the “leave” the district administration has asked her to take. She responds, “I’m thinking of resigning” (Avi 207). She doesn’t state clearly that she will or will not resign. Her internal conflict is further revealed when Mr. Duval contacts her a second time. Then, Ms. Narwin is at the airport headed for Florida to visit her sister. Mr. Duvall asks her if she has resigned and Ms. Narwin replies, “I need some time to think . . . ” (Avi 210). Ms. Narwin clearly is torn whether or not to return to the profession she loves. The reader sees her internal struggle in the way she can’t, or won’t, give a straight answer to the direct question Mr. Duval asks her. The reader is left in suspense wondering if Ms. Narwin will continue teaching, thus increasing the interest in the plot of the novel.