16. Structuring Sections and Essays

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2013-1.0, 13-7-9
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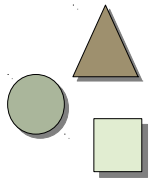
1) Skeletons
2) Outlining Essays



Obligatory Literature

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16.1 Skeletons of Texts and Skeleton Revision

Skeletons

- The **skeleton** of a section is the sequence of all points of all paragraphs.
  - The skeleton is an abstraction of the text
- If it is marked and extracted from the section, it forms the **skeleton paragraph.**
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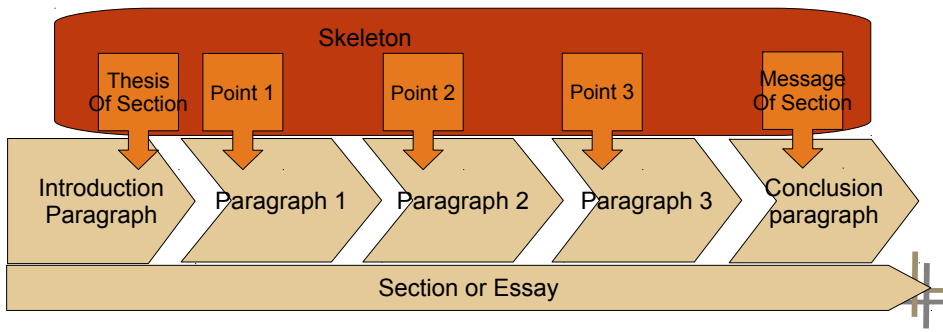
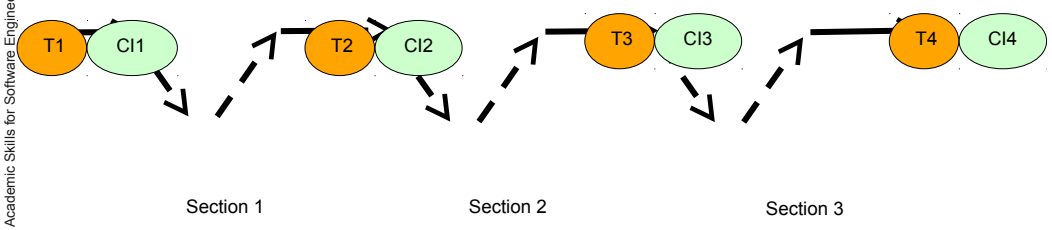


Section Coherence by Grouping the Controlling Ideas

- Development schemes can be applied in a paragraph, but also on the section and chapter level. Then, a paper gets a Bush structure (chapter – section – paragraph)
- If all paragraphs are direct paragraphs (point first), their controlling ideas can be seen *like a dispersed paragraph (the **section skeleton**)*
- Then, all transition sentences (T) and all controlling ideas (CI) of all paragraphs in a section need to be linked.
  - They need to form a development scheme with Support and Threading relation
    - With ascendance and a conclusion



Multi-Paragraph Topic (Direct Skeleton)

[Garden Ash, S. 10] What do you recognize?

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Chapter Coherence

- All transition sentences (T) and all controlling ideas (CI) of all paragraphs need to be linked.
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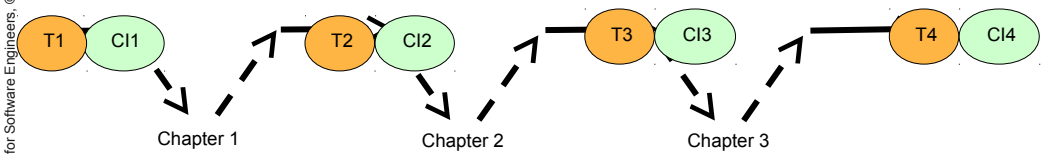

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Section Revision Process for Section Unity (Skeleton Maturization)

- The maturity of the skeleton of a section can be red, yellow, green.
- Isolated paragraph revision results in a *red skeleton*.
- Skeleton analysis finds out all points and checks whether they fit to each other.
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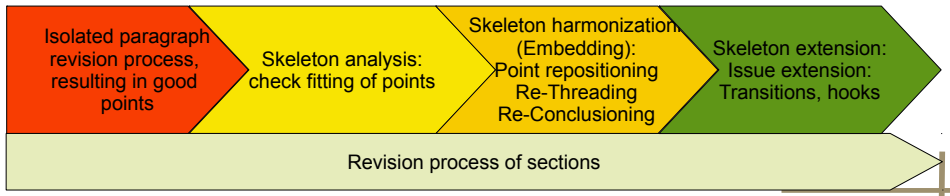

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Different Kinds of Skeletons of Sections

- A **direct skeleton** is a sequence of direct paragraphs
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- Direct skeletons have the advantage that they let the reader walk from point to point. All points are arguments/supports for the section point.
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Coherence of Sections by Microthreading Paragraphs

- A section is **coherent** if all its paragraphs are linked with the previous.
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  - Microthreading can be used, like Topic-First or Stress-Last
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- Through a section, multiple thematic strings may run

16.1.2. Transitions between Paragraphs with Tension

Transitional Sentences with Thrust

- A transitonal sentence for a pargraph needs a *horizontal link* to the previous paragraph
- Use Subclause thrusting for transitions:
  - Use a pivotal complex sentence, e.g., concessive:
  - "Obgleich <link>diese Technik</> ihre Vorteile auszuspielen scheint, verhindert ihre Schwerfälligkeit dennoch ihren Einsatz."

Fragment as Introduction and Transition; Wrapped Paragraph

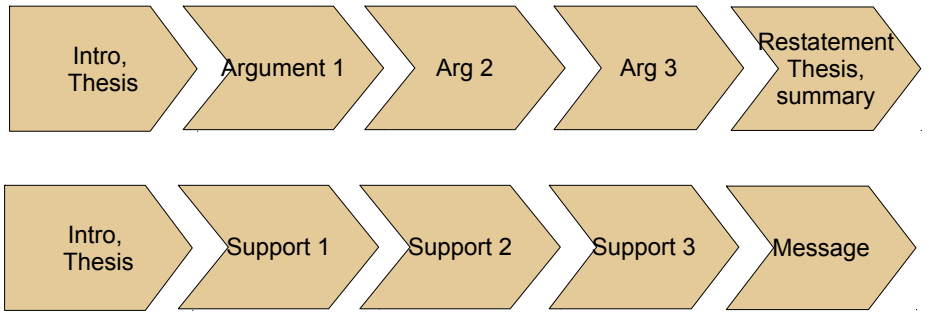
[Russel-Problems] Wrapped paragraph with repeated point

To return to the table. It is evident from <link>what we have found</>, that <point>there is no colour which pre-eminently appears to be _the_ colour of the table, or even of any one particular part of the table</>--it appears to be of different colours from different points of view, and there is no reason for regarding some of these as more really its colour than others. And we know that even from a given point of view the colour will seem different by artificial light, or to a colour-blind man, or to a man wearing blue spectacles, while in the dark there will be no colour at all, though to touch and hearing the table will be unchanged. This colour is not something which is inherent in the table, but something depending upon the table and the spectator and the way the light falls on the table. When, in ordinary life, we speak of _the_ colour of the table, we only mean the sort of colour which it will seem to have to a normal spectator from an ordinary point of view under usual conditions of light. But the other colours which appear under other conditions have just as good a right to be considered real; and therefore, to avoid favouritism, we are compelled to deny that, in itself, the table has any one particular colour.

16.2 Outlining Essays with Rhombi

1-3-1-Essay (Fünfschritt, Direct Essay)

- The standard English essay is a *direct wrapped essay with repetition of the thesis* [Franklin-Parks]
- Its structure is a rhombus or 5-chain, flat or deep (comb or bush)



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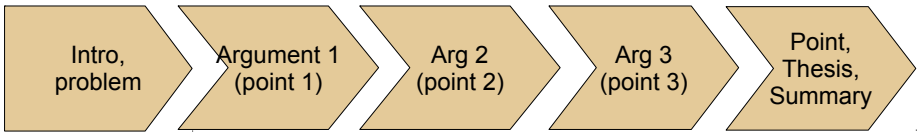
Suspended Essay

- The suspended essay has the point at the end



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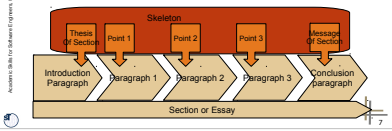

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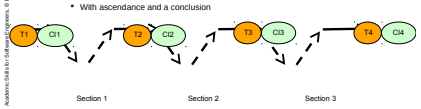

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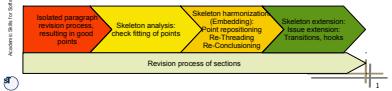

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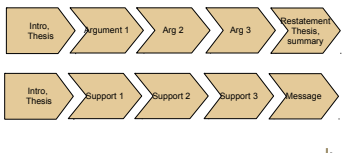

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