

## Body Paragraph Help

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Here is an example of the body paragraph structure. Remember the structure: **Assertion, evidence, commentary, evidence, commentary, concluding sentence.**

Prison systems should adopt a work/reward program because these programs can provide many benefits to society, the most important of which, is the ability to return productive individuals back to society, instead of criminals. Today, of the 1600 persons released from prison each day, 60% of them will commit the same crime again within 3 years (“Prison”). This statistic shows that the majority of criminals who enter the prison system commit the very same crimes again once released, endangering society needlessly a second time. Based on this high percentage of repeat offenders, the rehabilitation of inmates in America’s prison system seems to be broken, failing both society and inmates alike. Because of this failure to rehabilitate prisoners, some states that have implemented work/reward programs with measurable success. In a work/reward system, “every inmate is assessed to create a corrections plan which specifies the programs they should complete prior to their release and results show that meaningful work and training contributes to the success of inmates upon release” (“Oregon”). As a result of this personalized plan, work/reward programs in Florida and Oregon have shown a 22% improvement in repeat offenders for inmates who complete only a high school equivalency program, and a 53% improvement in repeat offenders when inmates complete both high school equivalency and rehabilitation programs (“Academic”). When inmates are trained and permitted to work, it strengthens their work and social skills, making it easier for them to become productive individuals when they are released, instead of falling back into a cycle of criminal behavior. This is the ultimate goal of the prison system — full rehabilitation. Prisons that adopt work/reward programs are more successful at rehabilitating their prisoners completely, taking criminals off the street permanently, instead of just providing temporary shelter. It is clear from these model programs that when properly administered, a work/reward program can drastically reduce the number of repeat offenders produced by ineffective rehabilitation methods, and create a safer society in the process.