

# Linear vs Webbing

**The two rules for linear are:**

1. All of the sentences go directly back to the **main idea**.
2. The order of the supporting detail sentences is **not** relevant. They can appear in any order and the story will still make sense.

**The two rules for webbing are:**

1. Each of the sentences links back to the **previous sentence**.
2. The order of the sentences **does** matter. If the sentences are out of their original order, the story will not make sense.

# 3 Methods of Idea Development

The first step to improving students' writing is to recognize the different forms of development. After this is done, then a teacher can give the proper advice to the student. All writing falls into one of the following styles of development...Linear, Webbing, Dissection. Use the chart below to determine the line of surface. Any sentences that fall above that line are not considered development – they are the main idea or the supporting details. Only the sentences that are below the line of surface are truly sentences of development.

Style	Definition	Diagram
<b>Linear</b>	Linear is a series of ideas that are merely <i>listed</i> in sentence form to create a paragraph. This is also called “popcoming”. This style of writing is when a student only uses supporting details <i>without</i> development. Each touch on the dotted line represents a sentence. The dotted line is the <b>line of surface</b> .	
<b>Webbing</b>	Webbing is a series of sentences that are linked together. One sentence further magnifies the sentence right before it. Each supporting detail should have its own set of webbing. Webbing is <b>another term for true development</b> . Each point on the star represents a sentence.	
<b>Dissected Webbing</b>	Dissecting is when a student has several <b>supporting details</b> that are contained within the same paragraph, all of which contain webbing. Each touch on the dotted line and each point on the star represent a sentence. Where the line and the points on the star touch, it is considered linear.	