Building a Body Paragraph in 30 Minutes

Step One: Working with my provisional thesis
Thesis: Parenting requires an ability to not only look after children, but to let them begin to make their own decisions and have their own lives.

Step Two: Creating Subtopics (Five minutes)
What main ideas can we come up with, using the Clark piece from Bronson, and our article from ABCnews.com, to support our thesis?

Step Three: Creating a Body Paragraph in Groups (Fifteen to Twenty Minutes)
In groups, come up with a body paragraph (on the overhead provided) that has the following:
   a. A strong topic sentence.
   b. Several pieces of textual evidence—quoted and/or paraphrased—that support the topic sentence and our thesis.
   c. Explanation and analysis of all textual evidence—quoted and/or paraphrased.

Step Four: The Big Idea (Five Minutes)
We will go over the resulting paragraphs, and take questions about their papers, and structure. See if we can't create some topic sentences for folks.