

A follow-up to the Thesis Whisperer's Powerful Paragraphs article!

Use the PEELL approach to writing your paragraphs:

P- **point**: make one!

E - **expand** on/**explain** the point made

E - cite **evidence** to support your claim (refer to or quote)

L - **link** your information to the topic you are discussing

L - make a **link** to your next paragraph

To take the final paragraph you came up with Inger in your Powerful Paragraphs article:

P: Talk is identity work; the stories we tell about ourselves signal to others what kind of person we think we are and reinforce our sense of self.

E & E: The concept of identity work has become a useful way of understanding the process of becoming an academic (Green and Lee 1998; Johnson and Lee 2000; Barnacle 2005; Dall'Alba and Barnacle 2007; Petersen 2007), the production of thesis texts (Kamler and Thompson 2007; Dunleavy 2003), the management of supervisor student relationships (Johnson, Lee and Green 2000; Green 2005) and in the practices of everyday doctoral life (Barnacle and Mewburn 2010).

L & L: No one has yet studied talk and identity in PhD candidature. This paper argues that telling stories about themselves 'in trouble' is not always complaining, but a strategy PhD students use for all sorts of reasons: to bond with others, to troubleshoot their experience and to come to terms with their altered state of being.

FOLOW-UP: Take a piece of your own writing and see if you can highlight PEELL in a few paragraphs (use different colours). By looking at the pattern of colours formed you can see how consistently you are following this model.