

## Sample Case Study Paragraph

- There are many ways you can structure a paragraph in a case study. This is one way it can be done
- TIP: Avoid re-telling the individual's life story but examine key features from their life as linked to theory and research.

First sentence introduces the key issue to be discussed

Second sentence linking issue to theory

One of the key issues across Tina's life is the tension present in the relationship with her sisters. Tina was a middle child, and it could be argued that

Third sentence explains theory using a reference

this had an impact on her development. **Adler's (2005) theory of the family constellation explains that humans are a part of larger systems, including the family, the community and all of humanity. Adler's (2005) theory explains that the birth order or position in the family constellation affects a person's lifestyle, but only through one's own interpretation of their birth position.** Tina often felt

Uses example from case study to demonstrate the connection to the theory

overshadowed by her older sister's academic achievements and her younger sister's health issues. She expressed multiple times feeling neglected within the family and that it was her responsibility to keep the peace between both her sisters. However, she also identified this as a strength as it helped her to develop her negotiation skills. **This experience is reflected in the theory.** **Leman (2009) argues that the middle child may be characterised by feeling neglected within the family, being an excellent negotiator and diplomatic.** However, this explanation fails to take into

Connects issue to theory

Further explains theory using a reference

account the broader context of Tina's life. **Birth order theory fails to consider the impact of social class (Groessler, 2020).** For example, in Tina's case, the family had

Critical analysis of theory by introducing a limitation of the theory supported with literature

difficulty accessing health care for her younger sister and equal education opportunities for all of the children. Often Tina had to miss out on school extra curricula activities to take care of her younger sister. This most likely had a

Links case study to literature

significant impact on her role in the family and the relationships with her sisters.

Final sentence could link to the next paragraph introducing another key issue or different theory