Parts of a Paragraph

There are 3 parts of a paragraph.
1. The topic sentence. It is first and tells what the paragraph is about.
2. The details. They give the more information about the topic.
3. The concluding sentence. It tells what the paragraph was about.

Here is an example:
    <u>Dogs help us in many ways.</u> **They keep us company. They help rescue people. Blind people use them as guides. Some people use them for hunting.** <u>People are helped by dogs in a lot of ways.</u>

    The topic sentence is underlined. It tells us that this paragraph is about dogs helping us in many ways. The details are in dark, bold letters. The give supporting information. The concluding sentence has two lines under it. It can restate the topic sentence in a different way.

Now it is your turn to identify these parts of a paragraph. You will need some colored pencils, crayons, or thin markers. Read each paragraph below. Draw a green line under the topic sentence. Draw a yellow line under the details. Draw a blue line under the concluding sentence.

1. I like horses. They are pretty. You can ride them. They are soft and warm. Horses can pull carts. I love horses.

2. This is how you make a chocolate sundae. First you get a bowl, a spoon, and an ice cream scoop. Next, you get some vanilla ice cream, chocolate syrup, and a cherry. Then use the ice cream scoop to put one large scoop of ice cream in the bowl. Pour chocolate syrup over the ice cream and put the cherry on top. Eat it with the spoon. That is how to make a sundae.

3. There were two different types of dinosaurs. There were carnivores. They ate meat. Tyrannosaurus Rex and Spinosaurus were meat-eaters. There were herbivores. They ate plants. Triceratops and Stegosaurus were herbivores. Carnivores and herbivores were two kinds of dinosaurs.

4. Did you know that dolphins are one of the smartest animals on earth? They have brains that are larger than a human's brain. They can recognize themselves in a mirror. They can be taught to read simple symbols. Dolphins are very smart animals.