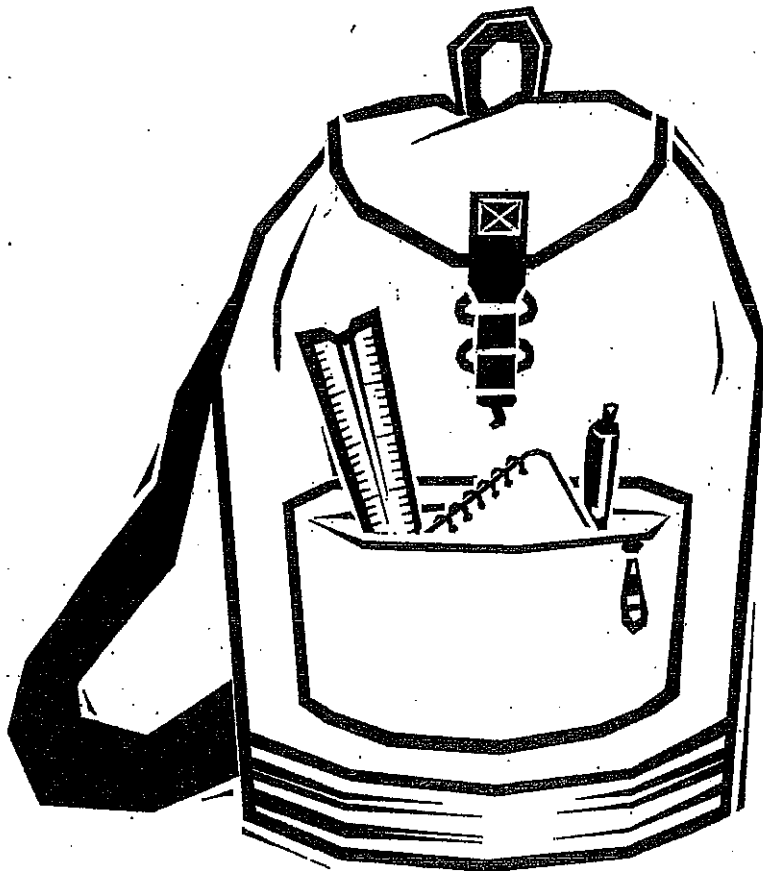


Excellent Writing Resources



Cavorting Colors

brick
cherry
cranberry
crimson
flame
Red
pink
rose
rust
scarlet
strawberry

apricot
brass
bronze
copper
Orange
peach
pumpkin
sandy
tangerine

gilt
gold
Yellow
lemon

avocado
emerald
evergreen
grassy

Green

lime
olive
pine

aquamarine
indigo
midnight
navy

Blue

royal
sapphire
sky
steel blue
turquoise

lavender
lilac
magenta
Purple
maroon
plum
violet

auburn
chestnut
chocolate

Brown

cocoa
mahogany
mud
nut
tan

dusky
ebony
jet

Black

onyx
pitch
sable

ash
iron
leaden
Gray
metallic
silver
slate
steel

blonde
fair
ivory

White

milky
pearly
snowy

checkered
freckled
marbled
Multi-
colored

patched
speckled
sprinkled



Put Away Those Worn-Out Words!

big

colossal
extensive
gigantic
huge
immense
large
spacious
vast

fun

enjoyable
entertaining
exciting
fantastic
festive
incredible
joyous
splendid

got

accomplished
acquired
earned
gained
gathered
obtained
received
retrieved

great

astonishing
excellent
glorious
magnificent
superb
superior
terrific
wonderful

nice

agreeable
cordial
courteous
friendly
helpful
kind
pleasant
warm

pretty

appealing
attractive
beautiful
enchanted
fair
gorgeous
lovely
stunning

said

announced
declared
gabbled
gossiped
hissed
hollered
lectured
whispered

small

compact
diminutive
little
miniature
minute
petite
puny
tiny

very

awfully
dreadfully
exceptionally
extraordinarily
fantastically
incredibly
marvelously
wonderfully

Instead of "Said"

screeched
wailed
whined
howled
sobbed
yelped
squeaked
squealed
complained
tattled
instructed
insisted
grumbled
laughed
boasted
bragged
predicted
explained
begged
demanded
told
reminded
questioned

threatened
admired
sighed
confessed
pointed out
stammered
gasped
snickered
stuttered
suggested
interjected
interrupted
muttered
chuckled
blurted
murmured
shrugged
commented
cackled
giggled
began
repeated
croaked

continued
requested
announced
added
argued
barked
burped
bellowed
chirped
called
cheered
concluded
chattered
discussed
described
exploded
expressed
exaggerated
growled
hollered
joked
jabbed
lied

Instead of "said," use:

announced	howled	shouted
answered	inquired	sighed
asked	insisted	snapped
called	instructed	snickered
chanted	invited	sniffed
cheered	laughed	snorted
chirped	lied	spluttered
chuckled	moaned	squealed
clicked	murmured	stammered
commanded	muttered	stated
complained	ordered	suggested
complimented	praised	thought
cried	proclaimed	told
decided	purred	wailed
declared	quacked	warned
exclaimed	questioned	whimpered
explained	read	whined
gasped	repeated	whispered
giggled	replied	whistled
growled	requested	wondered
grumbled	responded	yelled
hissed	roared	yelped
hollered	screamed	

Words to use instead of

☆ **good** ☆
(adjective)

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. great | 9. outstanding |
| 2. grand | 10. magnificent |
| 3. wonderful | 11. stupendous |
| 4. terrific | 12. benevolent |
| 5. excellent | 13. _____ |
| 6. marvelous | 14. _____ |
| 7. fabulous | 15. _____ |
| 8. fantastic | 16. _____ |

Words to use instead of

☆ **happy** ☆
(adjective)

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. cheerful | 9. merry |
| 2. glad | 10. overjoyed |
| 3. pleasant | 11. blissful |
| 4. upbeat | 12. ecstatic |
| 5. thrilled | 13. _____ |
| 6. joyful | 14. _____ |
| 7. delighted | 15. _____ |
| 8. content | 16. _____ |

Words to use instead of

★ **pretty** ★
(adjective)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. beautiful | 9. graceful |
| 2. lovely | 10. stunning |
| 3. gorgeous | 11. attractive |
| 4. handsome | 12. pleasing |
| 5. glamorous | 13. _____ |
| 6. cute | 14. _____ |
| 7. delightful | 15. _____ |
| 8. good-looking | 16. _____ |

Words to use instead of

★ **sad** ★
(adjective)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. unhappy | 9. mournful |
| 2. melancholy | 10. dismal |
| 3. morose | 11. despondent |
| 4. dejected | 12. dispirited |
| 5. sorrowful | 13. _____ |
| 6. downhearted | 14. _____ |
| 7. gloomy | 15. _____ |
| 8. somber | 16. _____ |

Words to use instead of

★ **big** ★
(adjective)

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. large | 9. immense |
| 2. huge | 10. colossal |
| 3. great | 11. broad |
| 4. enormous | 12. vast |
| 5. giant | 13. _____ |
| 6. gigantic | 14. _____ |
| 7. vast | 15. _____ |
| 8. mammoth | 16. _____ |

Words to use instead of

★ **funny** ★
(adjective)

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. hilarious | 9. witty |
| 2. amusing | 10. rib-tickling |
| 3. comical | 11. absurd |
| 4. humorous | 12. whimsical |
| 5. silly | 13. _____ |
| 6. jolly | 14. _____ |
| 7. ridiculous | 15. _____ |
| 8. laughable | 16. _____ |

Describing People

auburn
balding
black
braided
brittle
curly
dry
fine
frizzy
golden blonde
gray
light brown

Hair

long
oily
red
rusty
sandy blonde
shoulder length
silver
smooth
soft
straight
wavy
wiry

dry
like a bird's wings
perfectly formed
small

Mouth

turned down
turned up
wet
wide

hidden
large
long
medium
Ears
missing
red
small
sticking out

black
bloodshot
blue
brown
green
Eyes
hazel
round
slanted
small
speckled

bony
bumpy
crooked
flaring nostrils

Nose

large
pug
roman
straight
upturned

clean
clumsy
dangerous
dirty
gentle
graceful
healthy

Appearance

kindly
poor
rough
scruffy
sickly
stumbling
wealthy

brave
cautious
courteous
curious
fearless
forgiving
friendly
helpful
honest

Personality

liar
loud
mean
rude
sensitive
solitary
stuck-up
trusting
truthful

Onomatopoeic Words

These words are the sound they make. For example, faucets drip, pigeons coo, and tires squeal. Use onomatopoeic words to bring your reader into your writing.

bang	ding-dong	sizzle
beep	drip	slurp
boom	flap	smack
bowwow	growl	smash
buzz	grunt	snort
chirp	hiss	splash
chug	honk	squeak
clack	hoot	squeal
clang	howl	squish
clatter	hum	swish
click	meow	thud
clink	ping	thump
clomp	plop	tick
cluck	pop	tinkle
coo	puff	twang
cough	ring	whack
crackle	roar	whiz
crash	rumble	whoop
creak	rustle	zip
crunch	screech	zoom

Transitional Words and Phrases

What: Transitions are words or phrases that connect ideas.

above	due to	instead of
after	during	just as
also	earlier	much as
although	finally	next
another	first	on the other hand
as a result	for example	outside
at last	for instance	rather than
because	further	similarly
before	furthermore	so
behind	however	such
below	in addition to	therefore
beside	in fact	through
beyond	inside	under
different than		

Sequence Words and Phrases

after	during	just then	second
afterward	earlier	last	since
always	finally	later	suddenly
another	first	meanwhile	then
as soon as	furthermore	more	third
at once	immediately	next	until
at that moment	in addition	now	when
before	in the first place	on time	while

No Excuses Word Bank.

Regina Gersch

A	C	G	K	N	Q	T	W
about afraid after again all almost along always and animals any are around as ask at ate aunt away	call came can care children come cottage could cousin	gave get girl give go goes good grandpa grandma gymnastics	keep kids kind	never next new nice night noise north not nothing	queen quick quiet	tennis that the their them then there these they think this thought tired to told toys tried turn	walk want was watch water we went were we've what when where which who why will with woke work would
B	D	H	L	O	R	U	X
baby back basketball be beautiful because been before better birthday born boy breakfast bring brother but buy by	decided didn't dinner does done don't down dressed drink did	had happy has have he heard help her here him his hockey home house how	made make mall many me Miss more morning most mother movies Mr. Mrs. much must my	of off on once one only open or other our out over own	said saw say says scared scary school sister sitter skating skiing sledding so soccer some special stairs surprise	uncle until	
	E	I	M	P	S	V	Y
	each eat ever every eye	ice if ignore in into is it		park party people picnic picture pizza play please practice pretty problem pull put		very video village	you your
	F	J				Z	
	family father fell find found friend from						

1. One day

2. Long ago

3. Many years ago

4. Once upon a time

5. There once was

Transition Words and Phrases

Transition words and phrases help make clear connections between ideas and ensure that sentences and paragraphs flow together smoothly, making them easier to read. Use the following words and phrases in the following circumstances.

To indicate more information follows:

Also,
Besides,
Furthermore,
In addition (to),
Another . . . ,
Indeed,
In fact,
Moreover,
Second, Third, etc.

To indicate a result or an effect:

Accordingly,
Consequently,
Hence,
So,
Therefore,
Thus,
Finally,

To indicate an example:

For example,
For instance,
In particular,
Specifically,
To demonstrate,
To illustrate,

To compare or contrast:

In comparison,
Also,
Likewise,
Similarly,
In contrast,
Alternately,
On the other hand,
However,
Although,
Yet,

To indicate sequences of time:

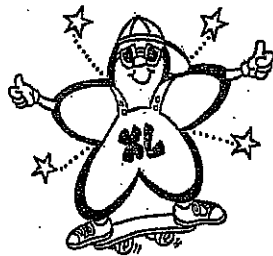
First, Second, etc.
Initially,
Before,
Previously,
Formerly,
Also,
During,
Simultaneously,
Subsequently,
Meanwhile,
At the same time,
Currently,
Soon,
Then,
Next,
Later,
Eventually,
After,
Finally,

To conclude:

Given these facts,
Hence,
So,
Therefore,
Thus,
Now,

EDITOR'S PAGE

Great! You wrote a good story! Now its time to make it even better! XL will show you how.



REVISE!

Read your completed essay *aloud*.

Y N Are there some parts that don't go with the rest?

(Just cross them out.)

Y N Did you leave out some words?
(Put this ^ and add them now.)

Y N Did you start many sentences with the same word?
(If you can't think of different words, ask a friend.)




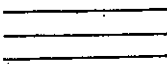



Now read your story to friend.
Bet it sounds much better!



Proofreading Marks



Mark	Meaning	Example
	Add one or more words.	have I [^] seen the play.
 	Take out one or more words. Change the spelling.	Kate has went home. The ^{balloon} baloon popped.
	Make a small letter a capital letter.	My birthday is in june. _≡
	Make a capital letter a small letter.	My ^d Ø dog is brown.



Proofreading Checklist



Read each question. Check your paper for each kind of mistake. Correct any mistakes you find. Put a check in each box when you have looked for that kind of mistake.

- ☐ 1. Did I begin each sentence with a capital letter?
- ☐ 2. Did I use correct end marks?
- ☐ 3. Did I spell each word correctly?
- ☐ 4. Did I indent each paragraph?
- ☐ 5. Did I use commas correctly?

Is there anything else you should look for? Do you make the same kind of mistake many times? Make your own proofreading list.

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Looking For A Writing Topic?



- tree house • forest • space • speaking • art class • dancing • reading • birds • the last person on Earth • inside a garbage can • fingerpainting • crunchy • fairy tales • rope and tape • parents
- music • poetry • warm places • snow • adventures • donkeys • Chicago Bulls® • weather • brain • the *Mayflower* • submarine • desert • fishing • Florida • home • feelings • magnets • sunglasses • sneakers • animal life underground • clouds • hair • airplane • Greek gods • populations • jobs of the future • explosions • a big animal • on top of a pizza • rabbit • palace
- emotions • Native Americans • time • parts of a house • goat • plants • life on another planet • war and peace • seasons of the year • jungle • outdoors • zoo • the environment • chocolate • shopping • video games • golf • Monopoly® • card games • home alone • school • managers • marbles • holidays • inside a computer • outer space • rain • babies • banana split • clocks • sleeping • rocket • storm • my favorite vacation • soap • frog • shovel • a specific time in history • presidents • inside a pillow • barn • giants • nose • galaxy • volcano • operating room • water • water balloon • *Alice In Wonderland* • movies • social studies • mummies • constellations • months • dice • lightbulbs • boats • create your own planet • Mom • the government • be mayor for a day • inside a dream • Jell-O® • teepees • caves • inside a flower • a foreign country • dog • Dad • time capsule • Mickey® Mouse • Corvette • mountains • radio • under the sea • snakes • whales • Texas • around the world in 80 days • an ant's life • rainy days • oil spills • windows • remote control • wildlife • Italy • food • reptiles • decorate a room • ABCs • football • Miami Dolphins® • magic • glasses • chips • Pepsi® • microphone • records • iced tea • furniture • lawn mower • telephones • measuring tape • Wal-Mart® • guitar strings • cousins • toast • clothes • designer for a day • how a marker works • recycling • words • magazines • comic books • colored paper • scissors • typewriters • roller coasters • orange vests • videotapes • cats • camping • my favorite movie star • macaroni • wet hair • salt and pepper • homesick • musical instrument • bucket of minnows • baseball bat • kitchen tables • hood ornaments • bowling • sugar • teachers • brothers and sisters • loitering • Wednesdays • pickup truck • climbing a mountain • Coke® • a wonderful smell • McDonald's® • hot-water bottle • elephants • Disney World® • shower curtain • full moon • haircut • hats • what a traffic light sees in one day • a challenge • spotlights • motor oil • perfume • air • how a wheelbarrow feels after work • relatives • a bride • mules • photographs • dashboard • a black eye • chewing gum • nightgown • create a business • checking account • cavity • my very own credit card • lightning • the beach • baseball • lions • heaven • my favorite sport • family reunions • my favorite holiday • living in a forest • holes • catalogs • how I feel when I hear a siren • slumber parties • flea markets • weekends • muscles • inside a snowstorm • coffee • tigers • jeeps • belt buckle • gasoline • refrigerator • chili • bait shop • camouflage • night crawlers • eleven • piano • how ears work • inside a tornado • Burger King® • bears • hockey • kitten • karate • my favorite book • my favorite food • arrows • flashlights • how eyes work •



Management

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Journaling *(cont.)*

Here are a variety of prompts that can be used for journaling.

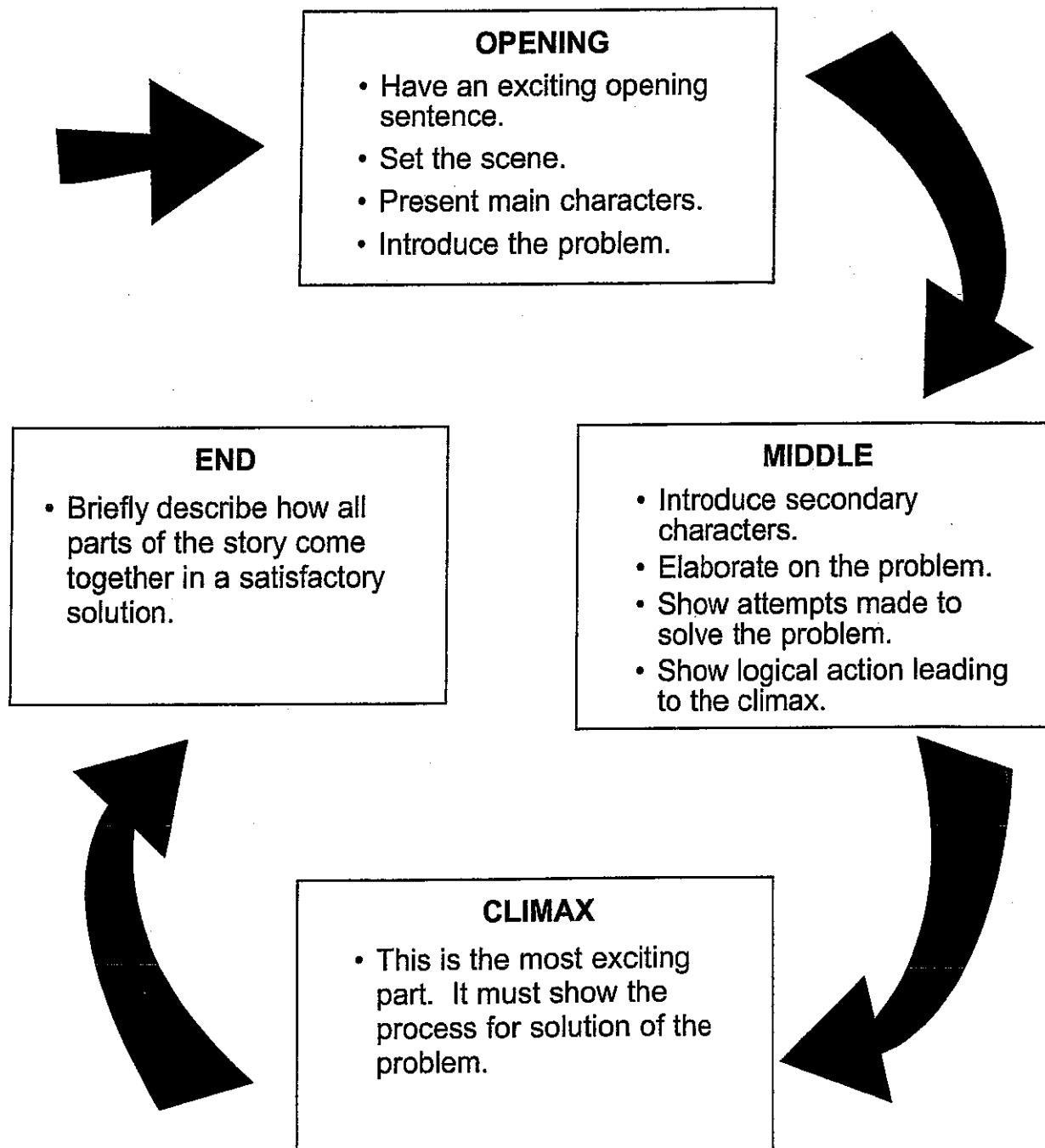
- A unique part of me is . . .
- My best talent is . . .
- I feel special because . . .
- It's difficult for me to . . .
- I'm proud of . . .
- A person I admire is . . .
- All the money I need is . . .
- Casting a vote for . . .
- One of my favorite memories is . . .
- My favorite pet is . . .
- A holiday wish I have is . . .
- What if . . .
- One television show worth watching is . . .
- My other best friend is . . .
- A magic moment . . .
- Siblings can be so . . .
- The vacation I wish I had . . .
- What really bothers me . . .
- Children should be allowed to . . .
- After graduation from high school . . .
- In ten years I will . . .
- The best gift I ever received/gave . . .
- The chore I hate to do is . . .
- I wish I could . . .
- A book I highly recommend . . .
- If I could change one thing about this classroom . . .
- On weekends I like to . . .
- My best achievement this year . . .
- One place I would really like to visit . . .
- What I like about myself . . .
- I get angry when . . .
- If I were sixteen . . .
- My biggest worry is . . .
- I think that homework . . .
- When I am alone . . .
- The funniest thing I ever saw . . .
- If I were a cartoon character, I would . . .
- Summer is fun because . . .
- When I watch television . . .
- A job I never want is . . .
- My teacher . . .
- I am the one who . . .

Student Writer's Notebook

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Structure of a Good Story

If you are writing a narrative, it is important to follow the structure of a good story.



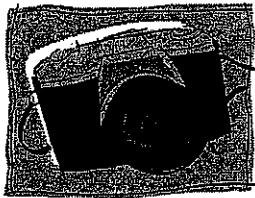
Details



Binoculars – Use your writing binoculars to focus on the five senses in your writing.



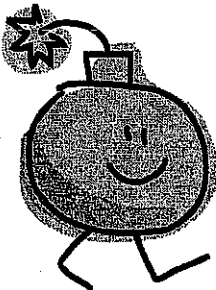
Similes – When you compare two things using the words **LIKE** or **AS**.



Snapshot – Take a picture in your mind and use lots of details to describe it to your readers.



Thoughtshot – Write about what your characters are thinking. (The Inner Voice)



Explode a Moment – Find the most important and exciting moment in a piece of writing and then “explode it”—describing it with a lot of details.

Student Writer's Notebook

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Dialogue: How to Write It

Dialogue is what your characters say to each other. Dialogue is very important in a story because of the following reasons:

1. **Dialogue helps the reader get to know the character.** You can tell a lot about people by what they say. Suppose you tell two of your friends that you won a special award and one friend says, "So, it's just a stupid award," and the other says, "That's so great! You deserve that!" What does that tell you about each of these friends?
2. **Dialogue can tell a reader about what has happened before.** For example,
"I was just thinking, Sis."
"About what?"
"Oh, I was remembering that time down by the lake when you were so scared. What happened?"
3. **Dialogue can give the reader clues about what will happen later in the story.**
"Go to the mountains with us; it will be so much fun!"
"Okay, I'll go. But I won't go near the lake. I don't 'do' water."
"Yeah, she almost drowned in my little sister's wading pool last summer!"
4. **Dialogue is important in moving your story forward.** Your characters can take the readers along:
"Really, Mike, you didn't do that badly on the math test!"
"She's right; you should have seen Joelle's score!"
"Speaking of Joelle, we better hurry; she's probably wondering what's taking us so long!"

To improve your ability to write good dialogue, practice the following:

1. **Listen.** Wherever you go, listen to people speaking to each other. Listen to older people, little kids, moms and dads, people in theaters and pizza parlors, people who live in different places and speak different languages or have accents. Listen to different kinds of expressions. Keep a writer's journal and record various conversations and expressions.
2. **Visualize.** When you write dialogue, imagine your characters walking around and speaking to each other. Write how they would speak.
3. **Make it count.** The words your characters speak should have meaning and importance to your story. Do not have them talking just to take up space in your story. They can plant clues, move the story to the next scene, or give background information about another character or about themselves.

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Dialogue: How to Write It (cont.)

Enclose the exact words being said with quotation marks, as shown here.

Jerry said, "I want to go home now."

"I want to go home now," Jerry said, "because it's getting late."

"I want to go home." Jerry stood up. "It's getting late."

In these examples, you see Jerry saying basically the same thing but in different ways. The quotation marks enclose the exact words Jerry says. Nothing else.

Words like *Jerry said*, which tell who is speaking, are called *explanatory words*.

Separate the explanatory words from what is being said with a comma or commas, except when a new sentence is beginning.

In the second example above, there are commas after the word *now* and after the explanatory words *Jerry said* because "I want to go home now because it's getting late" is one whole sentence. In the third example above there is a period after *home* because *Jerry* begins a new sentence.

Capitalize the beginnings of new words and new sentences being spoken, as shown here:

Janey screamed, "The car is going to crash!"

Do not capitalize the second part of a quoted sentence, as shown here:

"I wish I could go," Tiffany said, "but I have to do my homework."

The word *but* is not capitalized because it is part of the sentence, "I wish I could go, but I have to do my homework."

Expository

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Introductions and Conclusions

Beginning and ending paragraphs are important parts of your report.

The introductory paragraph can easily be written by telling about each of the categories. Here is an example.

Sample introductory paragraph:

How much do you know about black widow spiders? This report will tell about what they look like and where they live. It will also tell about how dangerous they are.

On the lines below, write an interesting lead sentence and then write a few sentences telling about the categories in your report.

Now it's time to write your conclusion. The conclusion is a summary of what you have written in your report. The conclusion can include one or more of the following points:

- a summary of your main points
- your opinion about your research
- the things you learned from writing the report
- why the subject is important to you
- where the reader can find more information about the subject

Write your conclusion below.

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What Is a Paragraph?

A paragraph is a short piece of writing that has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Every story, essay, article, or book is made of little paragraphs stitched together. When you know how to write a paragraph, you know how to do many different kinds of writing.

Now that you have an idea about how a paragraph works, here are the basics.

The Beginning

The first sentence of a paragraph is called a *topic sentence* because it tells what the paragraph will be about. Here is an example of a topic sentence.

My dog thinks she is a human.

The Middle

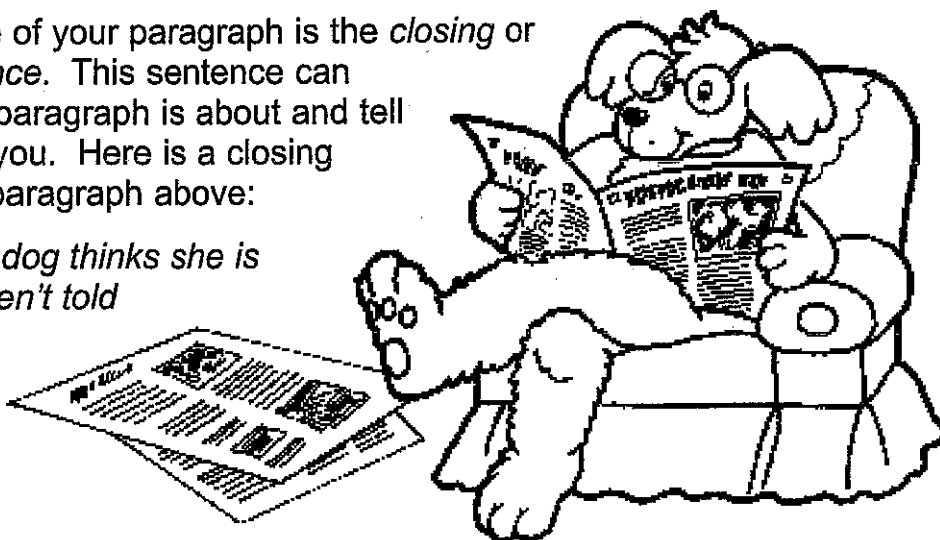
All of the sentences that come after the topic sentence tell more about the topic. They are called the *body sentences*. For example, read the following sentences:

First of all, she can open doors. She jumps up and opens the door with her paws, and then she walks into the house to see if there is anything to eat. After that, she makes herself comfortable on the couch.

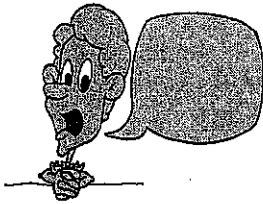
The End

The last sentence of your paragraph is the *closing* or *conclusion sentence*. This sentence can sum up what the paragraph is about and tell what it means to you. Here is a closing sentence for the paragraph above:

It is clear that my dog thinks she is human, and I haven't told her that she is a dog because I don't want to hurt her feelings!



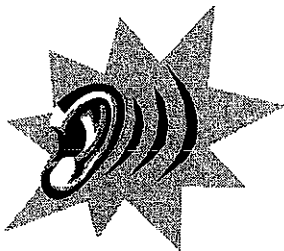
Leads



Dialogue Lead – Start with someone talking.



Big Potato Lead – Dig into the story, find an interesting moment, and pull it to the top.



Onomatopoeia Lead – Start with an interesting noise to catch the reader's attention.



One Word Lead – Use one strong word—like a feeling, emotion, or big idea—to start things off.



Question Lead – Ask a question to get your readers thinking and hook them from the beginning.

Expository

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Lead Sentences

Ants are insects.	Did you know that ants are stronger than you are?
This report is about penguins.	Penguins look like wobbling little men in tuxedos.
I did research about weather.	The sky is dark, gloomy, and filled with flashes of lightning.
There are many kinds of butterflies.	Fluttering from place to place, a butterfly has an important job.
I like dogs.	My best friend is fluffy and barks a lot.
It is important to recycle.	We can all pitch in to save the earth.
I learned about transportation.	Do you want to take a trip?
This report is about tornadoes.	Tornadoes can destroy homes and neighborhoods.
My report is about whales.	Watch out! Here comes the largest mammal in the world.
Soccer is fun.	Let me tell you about the most exciting sport in the world.
Bats are neat animals.	Many bats look creepy, but they are very interesting.

Persuasive

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Leads

Read each lead below. Tell what technique the lead uses by writing the technique on the line below it. Here are some lead types:

- asking a question
- creating a visual image
- creating suspense
- using the phrase "imagine that"

1. Have you ever wondered why there are so many commercials on television?

2. The sky was dark and cloudy and the wind was beginning to blow.

3. Does it bother you when kids bully you on the playground?

4. Imagine that you are driving down the road with your parents.

5. Crash! The sound of shattering glass woke me from my sleep.

6. It was a sunny autumn day. A cool breeze touched my face.

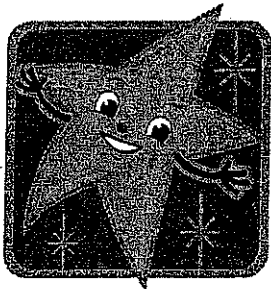
7. Are you ready for a fun vacation?

8. A dark and silent shadow crept down the hallway.

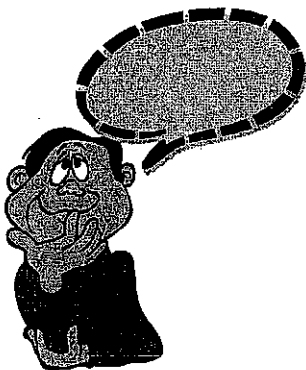
9. Imagine that you went to school one day and no one was there.

10. I came home from school to the warm, sweet smell of my mother's cookies.

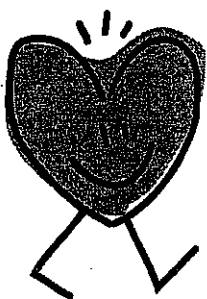
Endings



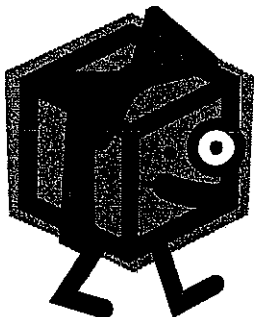
End with a Wish – End your writing with a wish so your readers can know how you really feel about your writing topic.



End with a Memory – End your writing with a powerful memory that your readers won't be able to forget.

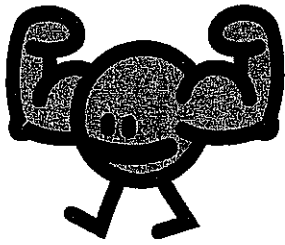


End with a Feeling – End your writing with a strong feeling that is connected to your writing topic.

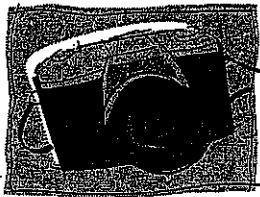


Summary Ending – Wrap up all of the details of your writing and present the reader with the main idea.

Endings



End with a Strong Line – End your writing with a really strong line that will stick with the reader.



End with a Snapshot – End your writing with a picture of a person or a place—a picture that will last and last in your readers' minds.



End with a Question – End your writing with a question that will make your readers think and think and think.

**Begin Here
End Here**



Circle Ending – End your writing where it began—right back at the beginning.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

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Punctuation: Notes for Teachers (cont.)

9 This is a comma. Here is how to use it:

- to indicate a pause between adjectives, clauses, phrases, or sentences

*Examples: I am a very hungry, skinny boy!
Even though I just ate, I'm still hungry. I'm hungry, and I need to eat.*

- to separate a city and state

Example: Paradise, California

- to separate two or more words in a list or series

Example: I ate two corn dogs, one pizza, a hamburger, and French fries.

- after the introductory words at the beginning of a sentence

Example: Yes, you may go to Lizzy's.

- around interrupters

Example: Stan and Lou, of course, are going to the game.

- after the name of a person to whom someone is speaking

Example: Tomás, are you eating again?

- to separate a quotation tag from a quotation

Example: She said, "Lizzy, I can come over now."

- after a greeting or closing in a letter to a friend or relative

*Examples: Dear Grandpa, or Sincerely,
Buddie*

9 This is an apostrophe. Here is how to use it:

- in contractions

Examples: it's (it is), we'll (we will), they're (they are)

- to indicate possession

Examples: Samantha's big toe, the dog's paw

() These are parentheses. Here is how to use them:

- around words or phrases that add information or make an idea clearer

Example: The green-eyed monster (my sister) is away this weekend.

- **This is a colon.** Here is how to use it:

- after the greeting in a business letter

Example: Dear Mr. Okasaki: and To Whom It May Concern:

- to introduce a list

Example: Please bring the following items: lined paper, colored pencils, and markers.

- between the hour and the minutes in the time of day

Example: 7:30 A.M.

- to introduce an important point

Example: Take note: We will be meeting on Saturday instead of Friday.

“ These are quotation marks. Here is how to use them:

- at the beginning and end of a direct quote

Example: Tomas said, "I'm hungry again."

- at the beginning and end of the titles of songs, short poems, short stories, articles, chapters of books, and television and radio programs (unless a continuing series)

Examples: On television's "Superstar Football Special," he sang "The Star Spangled Banner." I am reading a short story in our literature text, "To Build a Fire," by Jack London.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

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Punctuation: Notes for Teachers (cont.)

- **This is a period.** Here is how to use it:

- at the end of a declarative sentence

Example: I decided to relax in the hammock.

- after abbreviations

Examples: Dr. and etc.

- **This is a question mark.** Here is how to use it:

- at the end of interrogative sentences (questions)

Example: Have you ever slept in a hammock?

- **This is an exclamation point.** Here is how to use it:

- to show strong feeling after a word, a phrase, or an exclamatory sentence

Example: Oh, no! My underwear just fell out the window!

(Do not overuse exclamation points, and never use multiple exclamation points all in a row!!!!)

- **This is a hyphen.** Here is how to use it:

- to break a word between syllables at the end of a line

Example: My sister wants to eat lobster on her birthday.

- between two-part numbers

Example: fifty-two

- when writing fractions as words

Example: one-half

- to join two words that become one adjective

Example: This computer game is user-friendly.

- **This is a dash.** Here is how to use it:

- to indicate a sudden break in a sentence

Example: I was out in my garden—my brother calls it my weed patch—when I saw the caterpillars eating something.

- ● ● **This is an ellipsis.** Here is how to use it:

- to replace words that have been left out or to indicate a pause

Examples: Mary had a little lamb . . . the lamb was sure to go. Hmmm . . . now that I think about it . . . maybe aliens did visit my brother.

- **This is a semicolon.** Here is how to use it:

- to join the independent clauses of a compound sentence when you are not using a comma and a conjunction (and, but, etc.)

Example: I have a new baby brother; I can't wait to see him!

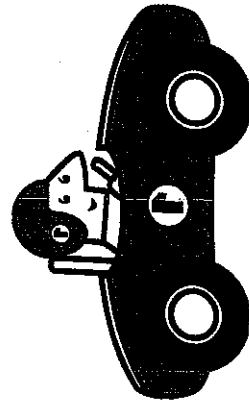
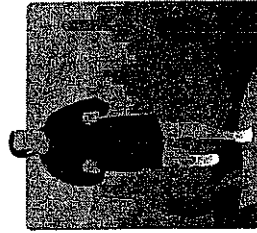
- in front of a subordinating conjunction when you are joining two simple sentences

Example: Larry apologized to Mrs. Harris; however, she kept screaming anyway.

- in a series of three or more items when commas are used within those items

Example: Our talent show has been planned. We will have Jazz, a group of dancers; Klutzy Kyle, a magical extravaganza; Barknikov, a poodle that dances ballet; and Spring Showers, a folk singer.

Great Verbs



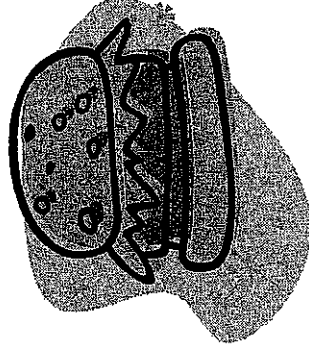
Choose the
perfect action
word for the
subject you're
writing about.

Exact Nouns

Instead of writing
"dog" write "poodle."



Instead of writing
"hamburger" write
"Big Mac."



Try to use
specific nouns
instead of general
nouns to help your
readers get a
clear picture in
their minds.

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Parts of Speech Word Lists

Nouns

Nouns are the people, places, and things in a sentence. Here are some nouns: cat, dog, egg, friend, grass, hamster, ice, juice, kite, love, Mary, night, ostrich, queen, river, street, tunnel, umbrella, Vincent, woman, zipper.

Pronouns

A pronoun can take the place of a noun in a sentence. Here are some pronouns: I, you, she, he, we, they, me, her, him, us, them, mine, my, your, his, our, their, it.

Verbs

Verbs tell the action of the sentence. They also tell when the action took place or will take place, depending on their *tense*. Changing the ending on most verbs shows if the action took place yesterday (past tense), is taking place now (present tense), or will take place tomorrow (future tense). Let's use the word jump as an example:

Past: The frog jumped out of my hands.

Present: The frog jumps out of my hands.

Future: The frog will jump out of my hands.

In the sentences, adding *ed* to the end of the verb tells us the action already took place. Using the helping verb *will* with the verb *jump* shows the action will take place in the future.

Helping Verbs

Helping verbs help express the action of the main verb. A helping verb can also let you know when the action took place, is taking place, or will take place. Here are some helping verbs: am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, have, has, had, do, does, did, will, would, shall, should, can, could.

Adjectives

Adjectives are describing words. They describe nouns. There are many adjectives. Here are just a few examples: alive, beautiful, cold, dangerous, every, first, grateful, high, ill, long, musical, proud, quiet, strong, tall, wild, zany.

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Parts of Speech Word Lists (cont.)

Adverbs

Adverbs describe verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs. Often they end in *ly*. Here are a few examples: brightly, carefully, dangerously, greatly, happily, joyfully, lightly, never, playfully, quietly, rarely, very, wickedly.

Prepositions

A preposition shows the relationship between words in a sentence. A preposition can show the relationship of *time* (when), *location* (where), or *direction* (which way). Here are some prepositions.

about	behind	except	out	until
above	below	for	over	up
across	beneath	from	past	upon
after	besides	in	regarding	with
against	between	inside	since	within
along	beyond	into	through	without
among	by	near	throughout	
around	concerning	of	to	
at	down	off	toward	
before	during	on	under	

Conjunctions

Conjunctions join words or sentences together. Here are some conjunctions: and, or, but, yet, nor.

Correlative conjunctions work together to show how two items are connected: both . . . and; not only . . . but also; either . . . or; neither . . . nor; whether . . . or.

Interjections

A word which shows emotion is called an interjection. Here are some interjections: no, phew, well, hooray, hey, well, ouch, yuck, help, yikes.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

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Capitalization: Notes for Teachers (cont.)

To capitalize, you begin a word with a capital (uppercase) letter. Here is a list of the kinds of words you should always capitalize.

- ☐ **the word I**
At the fair I bought a snow cone.
- ☐ **the first word in a sentence**
My cat doesn't like the water.
- ☐ **the names of people and places (proper nouns)**
Rachel
Boston
Ireland
Prince Edward Island
- ☐ **words derived from proper nouns (proper adjectives)**
Texan
French
Australian
New Yorker
- ☐ **titles with people's names (titles of position, rank, etc.)**
Governor Davis
Mr. Lopez
Dr. Nyguen
Captain Henderson
- ☐ **title of a person (when used in place of that person's name)**
Thank you, Doctor.
I went to see Grandma.
That's Dad.
- ☐ **days of the week and months**
Monday
Thursday
January
March
- ☐ **the first letter of each word in a friendly letter greeting**
Dear Izzy,
Dear Granny Jan,
- ☐ **the first letter of each word in a business letter greeting**
To Whom It May Concern:
Dear Sirs:
- ☐ **the main words in titles of books, movies, newspapers, television shows, plays, operas, musicals, or magazines**
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe
The New York Times
Phantom of the Opera
- ☐ **school subjects if they are languages or actual class titles listed in a catalog**
Italian
Renaissance Art
Geometry II
- ☐ **geographic locations when they name specific areas**
She lived in the West most of her life.
He wrote about the South.
- ☐ **holidays**
Labor Day
Memorial Day
Mother's Day
Strawberry Days

Here are some situations when you should not capitalize.

- ☐ **persons' titles when not used with a name or in place of a name**
I will write to the president.
I need to call the doctor.
- ☐ **the four seasons**
winter
spring
- ☐ **regular school subjects**
social studies
language arts
- ☐ **geographical directions**
Go west until you come to the highway.
We'll head south now.

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Style

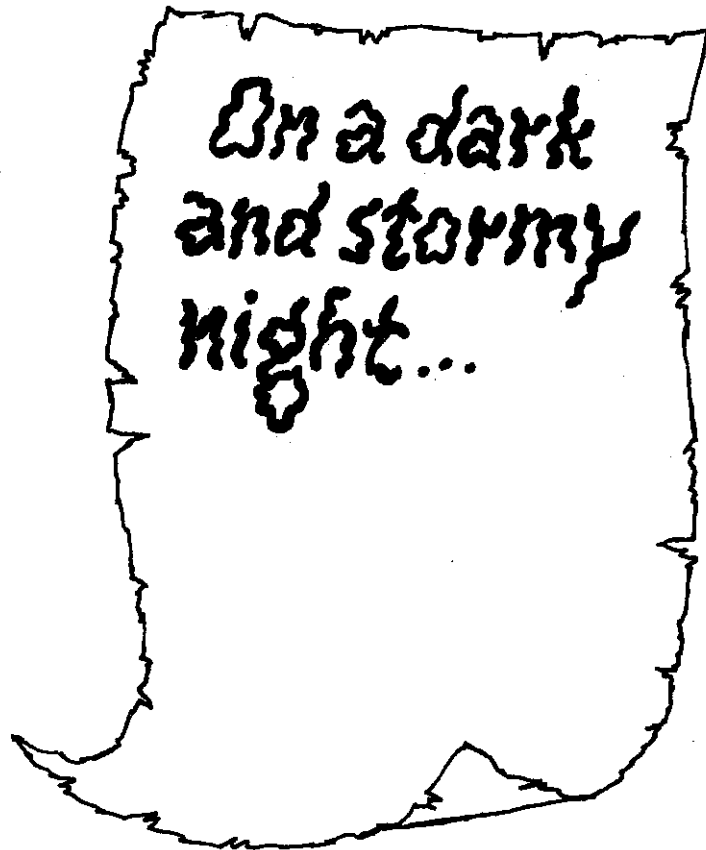
Style is how a writer tells a story. It is the kind of words an author chooses and the way the words are put together in sentences. Style is the way an author uses language. It is what makes one writer different from another writer and one story different from another story.

Look at the following examples of writing style.

First Lines

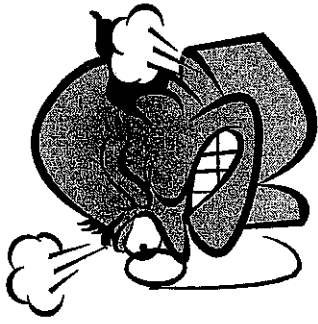
1. Long ago, in a distant and enchanted land, a beautiful maiden sat upon the banks of a gentle stream.
2. "Hey you! Watcha doin'?" Danny shouted at the new boy, "Whyn't ya watch where yer goin'?"
3. The room was dark and shadowy, and I could barely make out the forms of a person here and there, sitting, watching me as I scanned the room for what might be a hidden staircase.
4. She tiptoed through the black tunnel trying to keep the sounds of her breathing and beating heart from bursting through the silence when she suddenly sensed a presence behind her.
5. Benjie sat up and looked around. There were his teddy bear and his tiger and his blocks, but where were his bedtime book and his milk?

Extension—Choose your favorite style and, using additional paper, write a story of several pages that begins with the first two sentences of the assignment.



Adjectives

angry man
furious man
enraged man



Use good words to
describe your
nouns. Make sure
these words
sparkle.



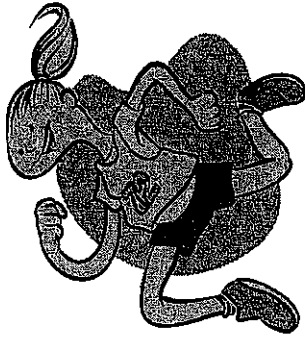
scared guy
frightened guy
terrified guy

Adverbs

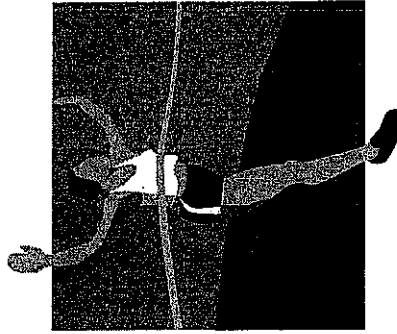


proudly running

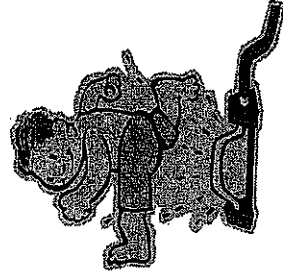
running happily



triumphantly running



running playfully



Use good words
to describe
your verbs.

Make sure
these words

sparkle.

Persuasive

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Voice Lessons

Write a sentence on the given topic to reflect each voice.

Subject: *Soccer*

Serious: _____

Enthusiastic: _____

Humorous: _____

Subject: *Amusement Parks*

Fearful: _____

Excited: _____

Bored: _____

Subject: *Dogs*

Serious: _____

Gloomy: _____

Humorous: _____

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

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Nouns: Notes for Teachers (cont.)

A *noun* is a word which names something: a person, place, thing, or idea.

- person: mailman, mother, actress, boy
- place: treehouse, kitchen, backyard, Alaska
- thing: bug, comb, dresser, piano
- idea: freedom, joy, grief, honesty

There are proper, common, concrete, abstract, and collective nouns.

- A *proper noun* is the name of a specific person, place, thing, or idea.

proper nouns: Mickey Mouse, *Little Women*, Thursday, Mr. Steele, Florida

- A *common noun* is a name that is not specific.

common nouns: mouse, book, day, teacher, state

- A *concrete noun* names something that can be touched and seen.

concrete nouns: Corvette, book, rollercoaster, Mrs. Ramirez

- An *abstract noun* is the name of something that can be talked about but cannot be seen or touched.

abstract nouns: happiness, courage, democracy, illness, Judaism

- A *collective noun* is the name of a collection of persons, places, things, or ideas.

collective nouns: class, team, litter, United Nations, bunch

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What Is a Paragraph?

A paragraph is a short piece of writing that has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Every story, essay, article, or book is made of little paragraphs stitched together. When you know how to write a paragraph, you know how to do many different kinds of writing.

Now that you have an idea about how a paragraph works, here are the basics.

The Beginning

The first sentence of a paragraph is called a *topic sentence* because it tells what the paragraph will be about. Here is an example of a topic sentence.

My dog thinks she is a human.

The Middle

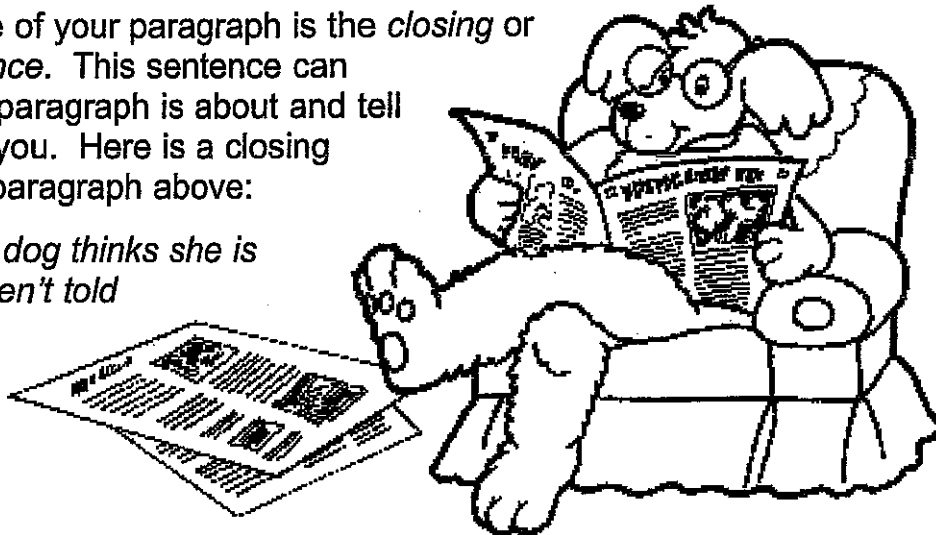
All of the sentences that come after the topic sentence tell more about the topic. They are called the *body sentences*. For example, read the following sentences:

First of all, she can open doors. She jumps up and opens the door with her paws, and then she walks into the house to see if there is anything to eat. After that, she makes herself comfortable on the couch.

The End

The last sentence of your paragraph is the *closing* or *conclusion sentence*. This sentence can sum up what the paragraph is about and tell what it means to you. Here is a closing sentence for the paragraph above:

It is clear that my dog thinks she is human, and I haven't told her that she is a dog because I don't want to hurt her feelings!



Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

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Verbs: Notes for Teachers *(cont.)*

A *verb* is a word which expresses doing or being. A verb tells what someone or something does or what someone or something has or is.

There are *action verbs* and *non-action verbs*.

- *Action verbs* are all about action. Here are some examples.

action verbs: jump, run, swim, cry, laugh, join, host, climb, scream, talk, push, stand, sniff, find, grow, fall, see, dry, eat, worry, shake, breathe, sleep

When a verb tells what the subject of a sentence does, it is called an action verb. For example, read this sentence: Cecilia screams at snakes. What does Cecilia do? She screams; therefore, the action verb is *screams*.

- *Non-action verbs* express being rather than doing. Here are some examples.

non-action verbs: has, have, had, is, are, was, were, am, been

When a verb joins the subject of a sentence with another word or phrase by telling what the subject has or is, it is called a non-action verb. For example, read this sentence: Lorenzo has a laughing dog. What is the relationship between Lorenzo and the laughing dog? Does he call it, laugh at it, or give it a haircut? No, he has a laughing dog. It belongs to him; therefore, the non-action verb is *has*.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics

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Adjectives and Adverbs: Notes for Teachers *(cont.)*

Adjectives are words used to describe nouns and pronouns. There are different types of adjectives, including *articles*, *common*, *proper*, *demonstrative*, *indefinite*, and *possessive*.

Articles describe nouns and pronouns in an indefinite way. There are just three articles.

articles: a, an, the

in sentences: I have *a* cat. We went to *the* store.

Common adjectives describe the subject in a general way. They answer the question, "What kind of?" or "How many?"

examples: soft, warm, six, blue, sunny, tired, tall

in sentences: My uncle is *tall*. The bunny is *soft*.

Proper adjectives are made from proper nouns and are always capitalized. They answer the question, "What kind?"

examples: Irish, Swedish, Native American, Elizabethan

in sentences: I love *Swiss* cheese. There are many *Japanese* cars.

Demonstrative adjectives point out things. They answer the question, "Which one(s)?"

examples: this, that, these, those

in sentences: I like *this* game. *Those* crackers look funny.

Indefinite adjectives give an approximate amount or number.

examples: some, many, more, less, fewer

in sentences: *Some* children climbed the tree. We have *more* cookies than they have.

Possessive adjectives show belonging.

examples: my, his, her, their

in sentences: My brother drove *his* car. *Their* house is large.

Adverbs describe verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs. Adverbs tell when, where, why, how, how often, how long, and how much/little. Adverbs often end with the letters *ly*, but not always. *Very*, *never*, *quite*, and *always* are also adverbs, but they do not end with *ly*. Also, some words ending with *ly*, such as *lovely* and *fly*, are not adverbs.

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Similes

A *simile* is a phrase that compares two unlike things in order to describe one of them, using the word *like* or *as*.

blind as a bat

brave as a lion

brown as a berry

cheap as dirt

clean as a whistle

cold as ice

crazy as a loon

deaf as a post

dumb as an ox

easy as pie

fat as a hog

fit as a fiddle

flat as a flounder

free as a breeze

gentle as a lamb

good as gold

green as grass

hard as nails

light as a feather

neat as a pin

nervous as a cat

playful as a kitten

pleased as punch

pretty as a picture

proud as a peacock

quick as a wink

right as rain

round as a ball

sharp as a tack

shy as a violet

sick as a dog

sly as a fox

smart as a whip

straight as an arrow

strong as an ox

stubborn as a mule

sweet as sugar

thin as a rail

ugly as sin

warm as toast

white as a sheet

wrinkled as a prune

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The ABC's (Printing)

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh

Ii Jj Kk Ll

Mm Nn Oo Pp

Qq Rr Ss Tt

Uu Vv Ww Xx

Yy Zz

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The ABC's (Cursive)

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh

Ii Jj Kk Ll

Mm Nn Oo Pp

Qq Rr Ss Tt

Uu Vv Ww Xx

Yy Zz

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Sight Word Lists

10 Most Used Sight Words

a	be	have	of	the
and	for	in	that	to

25 Most Frequent Sight Words

a	be	I	on	this
and	for	in	one	to
are	have	is	that	was
as	he	it	the	with
at	his	of	they	you

100 Most Common Sight Words

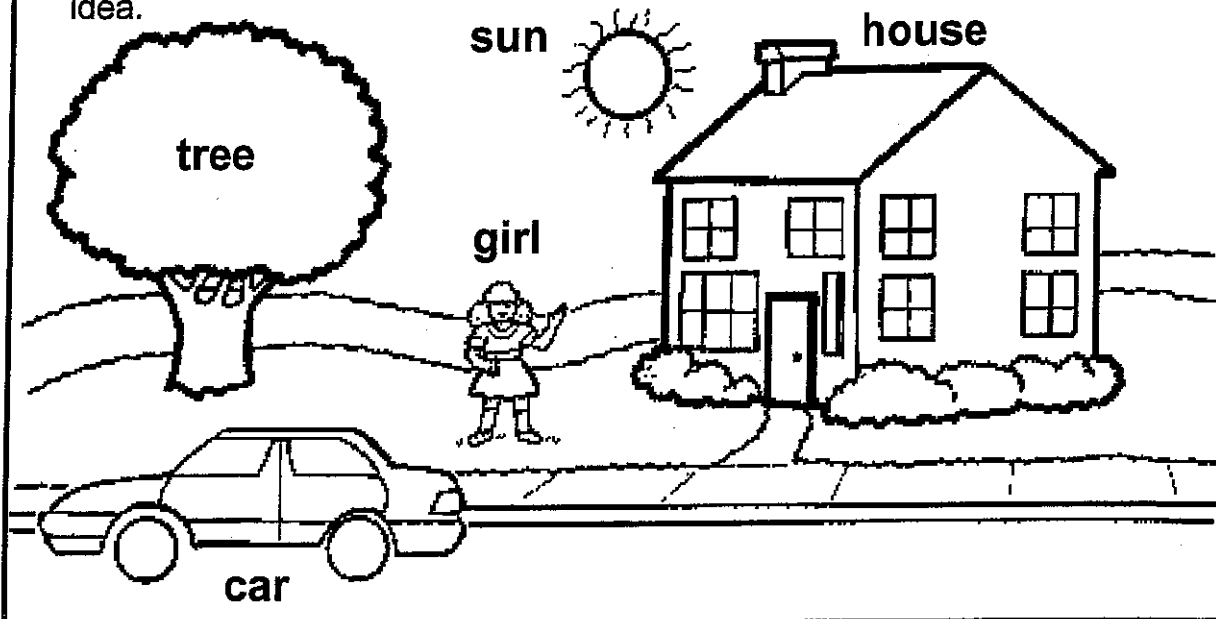
a	been	from	in	of	some	we
about	big	get	is	off	that	well
after	but	go	it	on	the	went
all	by	going	just	one	their	were
also	came	got	like	only	them	what
am	can	had	little	or	then	when
an	come	has	look	our	there	where
and	could	have	made	out	they	which
any	day	he	make	over	this	who
are	did	help	me	said	to	will
as	do	her	more	saw	two	with
at	down	him	my	see	up	would
back	first	his	no	she	us	you
be	for	I	not	so	very	your
because					was	

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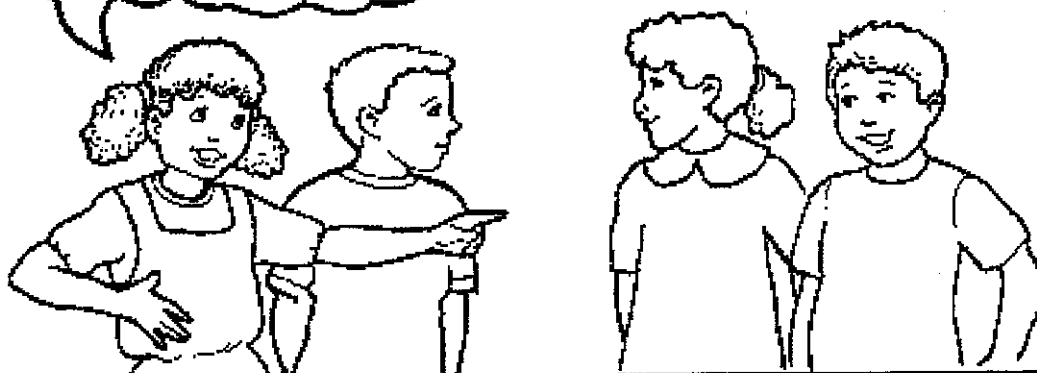
Parts of Speech: Reference Posters

A **noun** is a naming word. Nouns can name a person, place, thing, or idea.



A **pronoun** can take the place of a noun in a sentence. Words like *he*, *she*, *we*, *they*, and *our* are pronouns.

We should go to the movies
with *them*.



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Parts of Speech: Reference Posters (cont.)

Adjectives are describing words. They give information to describe nouns. Adjectives can answer questions such as "how many?" and "what kind?" *Tall, white, six, and sweet* are examples of adjectives.

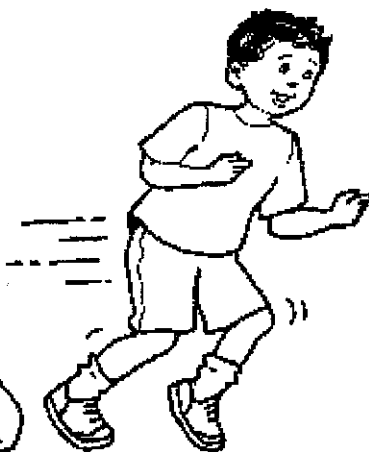


The *vanilla* cake had *six* candles.

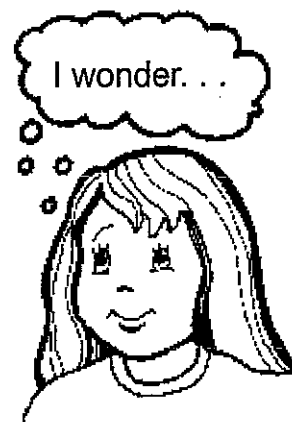
Verbs are action words. They tell what is happening in the sentence. Words such as *sing, run, and think* are verbs.



Sally is *singing*.



Juan is *running*.



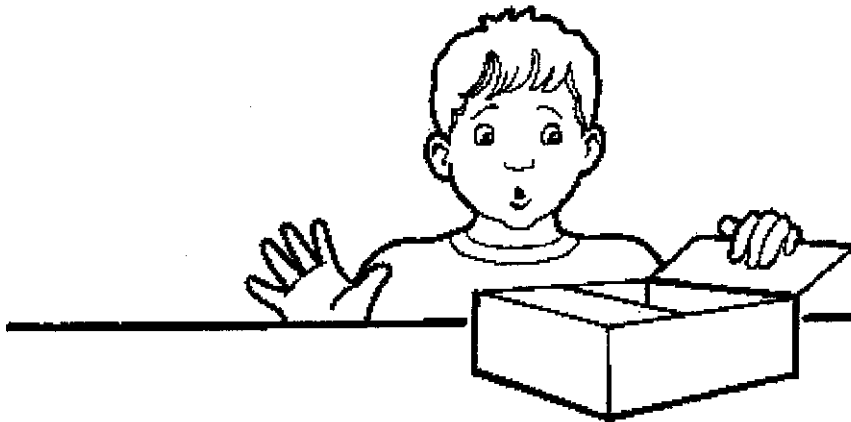
Maria is *thinking*.

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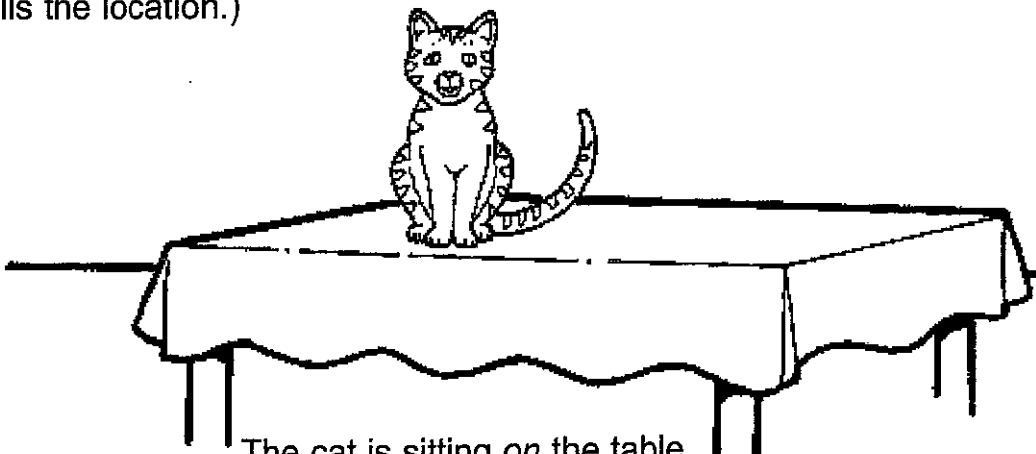
Parts of Speech: Reference Posters (cont.)

An **adverb** is a word that describes a verb, adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs usually describe how something is done. They often end with the letters *ly*. In the sentence, "The boy ran slowly," *slowly* describes how the boy ran. It is the adverb. What is the adverb in this sentence?



Tom *cautiously* opened the box.

A **preposition** shows the relationship between words in a sentence. A preposition can show the relationship of time (when), location (where), or direction (which way). Words such as *about*, *under*, and *from* are prepositions. What is the preposition in the sentence below? (Hint: It tells the location.)



The cat is sitting *on* the table.

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Parts of Speech: Reference Posters (cont.)

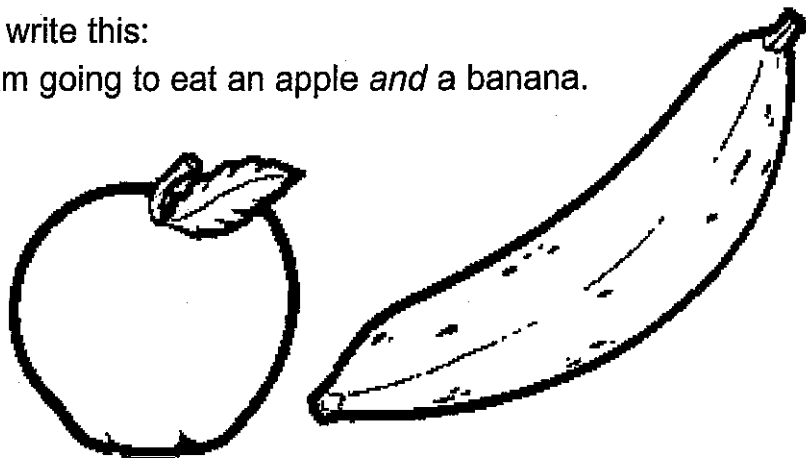
Conjunctions join words or sentences together. Words such as *and*, *or*, *but*, *yet*, and *nor* are conjunctions. Instead of two sentences like this:

I am going to eat an apple.

I am going to eat a banana.

you can write this:

*I am going to eat an apple **and** a banana.*



Yahoo! Right-on! Yippee! These words and other words that show emotion are called **interjections**.



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Dead Words

Some words in the English language tend to be overused and therefore lose their power. These are called *dead words*. Below is a list of dead words and more interesting alternatives. Add others to the list on a continuing basis.

also—too, moreover, besides, as well as, in addition to

awesome, cool, rad—fine, wonderful, marvelous, great, fantastic

scared—afraid, fearful, terrified, frightened

have to—need to, must

very—extremely, exceedingly, fantastically, unusually, incredibly, intensely, truly, fully, especially, shockingly, bitterly, immeasurably, infinitely, severely, surely, mightily, powerfully, chiefly

like—such as, similar to, similarly

kid—child, boy, girl, youngster, youth

mad—angry, frustrated, furious, incensed, enraged

got, get—received, obtained, attained, succeed in

then—first, second, next, later, finally, afterward, meanwhile, soon

nice—pleasant, charming, fascinating, captivating, delightful, pleasurable, pleasing

lots—numerous, heaps, many, scores, innumerable

so—thus, accordingly, therefore

fun—pleasant, pleasurable, amusing, entertaining, jolly

good—excellent, exceptional, fine, marvelous, splendid, superb, wonderful

but—however, moreover, yet, still, nevertheless, though, although, on the other hand

awful—dreadful, alarming, frightful, terrible, horrid, shocking

great—wonderful, marvelous, fantastic

guy—man, person, fellow, boy

funny—amusing, comical, laughable, jovial

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Sensory Words: Describing Objects

Size/Weight

bulky
colossal
enormous
gigantic
huge
tiny
immense
massive
minute
towering
light

Shape

broad
crooked
curved
deep
shallow
square
round
oblong
tapered
many-sided
indiscriminate
pointed

Color

flaming
dark
bright
glowing
flashing
dull
pale
flickering
glaring
dazzling
radiant
colorful
shiny
multicolored

Texture

bumpy
crinkled
fluffy
muddy
murky
rippling
shear
wispy
cold
icy
hot
warm
smooth
rough
grainy
sandy
moist
dry
satiny
silky
velvety
oily
slippery
uneven
jagged
prickly
hairy
shaggy
cool
cuddly
elastic
tickly
moist
damp
downy
hard
slimy

sharp
stick
soft
solid
sticky
wet
gooey
gritty
dull
furry
greasy
earthy
lukewarm
rubbery
tepid
slushy

Sound

thumping
squeaking
tinkling
ringing
clanging
sizzling
screeching
hissing
humming
rustling
buzzing
popping
splashing
thudding
snapping

Odor

antiseptic
burning
clean
fresh
fragrant
medicinal
musty
pungent
putrid
strong
sweet

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Sensory Words: Describing Food

Shape

indiscriminate
oblong
oval
round
square
tapered

Taste

biting
bittersweet
bland
burnt
buttery
creamy
crisp
delicious
fishy
flavorful
fruity
gingery
grainy
hearty
hot
juicy
mild
minty
nutty
oily
peppery
salty
savory
smooth
sour
spicy
strong
sugary
sweet
tangy
tart
tasteless
tasty
vinegar

Texture

cold
dry
gooey
grainy
gritty
hard
hot
icy
moist
oily
rough
slimy
smooth
soft
sticky
waxy

Odor

delicious
fishy
fresh
meaty
pungent
salty
savory
smoky
sour
spicy
strong
sweet

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Sensory Words: Describing Animals and People

Eyes

beady
black
blue
bright
brilliant
brown
clear
dark
dazzling
dreamy
dull
enormous
expressive
flashing
flaming
glaring
gleaming
glistening
glowing
gray
hazel
large
laughing
oval
radiant
shimmering
sparkling
starry
wide

Ears

droopy
floppy
huge
pointed
rounded
small

Stature/Body

Build

bent
big
bulky
chubby
colossal
crooked
enormous
fat
gigantic
graceful
grotesque
heavy
huge
immense
large
light
little
long
massive
minute
petite
portly
short
skinny
small
stout
tall
thin
tiny
towering

Tail

curled
flat
long
short
stubby
thin

Hair/Body

Covering

bald
black
blonde
brown
brunette
coarse
crinkled
curly
dark
feathered
fluffy
fuzzy
glistening
golden
gray
green
long
multicolored
red
scaly
short
smooth
spotted
straight
thick
white
yellow

Complexion

blushing
dark
light
pale
radiant
rosy
ruddy
tan
wizened
wrinkled

Sounds

bark
bawl
bleat
cackle
coo
crook
cry
groan
growl
hoot
howl
hiss
peep
purr
scream
screech
snarl
snort
tweet
wail
whine

Personality

bold
ferocious
fierce
generous
gentle
happy
kingly
mean
shy
vicious

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Sensory Words: Describing Settings

Weather

balmy
breezy
cold
cool
damp
dusty
dry
foggy
frosty
hazy
hot
humid
murky
rainy
starry
steamy
stormy
sunny
warm
wet
windy

Sounds

babbling
banging
bellowing
blaring
blasting
booming
bumping
buzzing
cheering
chiming
clamoring
clanging
clapping
clashing
crackling
crashing
crunching
deafening
echoing
exploding
gurgling
hissing
howling
humming
inaudible
jangling
jingling
lapping
loud
noisy
patter
peal
popping
quiet

raging
raspy
raucous
reverberating
ringing
roaring
rowdy
rumbling
rustling
screeching
shrill
silence
sizzling
sloshing
snapping
splashing
squeaking
still
swishing
thud
thumping
thundering
tinkling
tolling
uproar
whimpering
whispering
whistling
working
yelling
zinging

Odors

antiseptic
burning
clean
earthy
fragrant
fresh
gaseous
medicinal
moldy
musty
piney
pungent
rotten
smoky
stagnant
stale
strong
sweet

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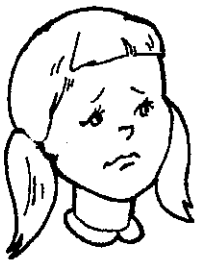
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Words That Express Emotions



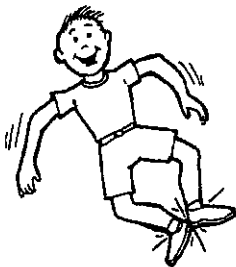
Happiness or Pleasure

glad	amused	comfortable	enthralled
peaceful	thrilled	joyful	delighted
cheerful	proud	excited	ecstatic
satisfied	pleased	contented	courageous



Sadness or Apprehension

unhappy	lonely	tearful	nervous
disappointed	gloomy	upset	frightened
discouraged	sorrowful	troubled	fearful
hopeless	angry	miserable	anxious
pathetic	serious		



Amusement

silly	loony	funny	jovial
comical	jolly	ridiculous	hilarious



Loving and Caring

liking	kind	helpful	true
friendly	generous	fond	pleasant

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Synonym Word Lists: Common Words

Synonyms have the same or nearly the same meaning as one another. Use this list to help think of other ways to write common words.

afraid	scared	frightened	terrified
angry	mad	furious	irritated
bad	wicked	evil	harmful
beautiful	cute	lovely	pretty
big	gigantic	huge	enormous
brave	courageous	fearless	bold
fast	hasty	rapid	speedy
fat	big	plump	stout
fight	argue	quarrel	disagree
funny	amusing	witty	humorous
give	offer	grant	award
good	worthy	pure	upright
great	fabulous	majestic	stately
grouchy	cross	disagreeable	cranky
grow	sprout	expand	increase
happy	joyous	glad	merry
journey	tour	trip	voyage
miserable	sad	unhappy	depressed
mistake	error	slip	blunder
person	human	individual	character
say	declare	state	express
sick	ill	unhealthy	unwell
silly	foolish	stupid	senseless
skinny	slender	slim	thin
slow	dragging	sluggish	leisurely
smart	clever	intelligent	wise
sparkling	gleaming	glistening	glittering
wet	damp	moist	soggy
wonderful	magnificent	marvelous	splendid
wrong	improper	incorrect	false

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Synonym Word Lists: Said

Use this list to help you think of different ways to write "said."

acknowledged	decided	murmured	screamed
added	demanded	nagged	shouted
admitted	denied	noted	shrieked
advised	described	notified	snapped
agreed	dictated	objected	sneered
announced	emphasized	observed	sobbed
answered	estimated	ordered	spoke
approved	exclaimed	pleaded	sputtered
argued	explained	pointed out	stammered
asked	expressed	prayed	stated
assumed	feared	predicted	stormed
assured	giggled	questioned	suggested
babbled	grinned	reassured	taunted
bargained	grunted	related	thought
began	indicated	repeated	told
boasted	insisted	replied	urged
bragged	instructed	requested	uttered
called	laughed	responded	vowed
claimed	lectured	restated	wailed
commanded	lied	revealed	warned
commented	mentioned	roared	whispered
complained	moaned	ruled	
cried	mumbled	scolded	



spoke



replied



mumbled

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Antonym Word List

Antonyms have opposite meanings. Use this antonym list to help you in your writing.

aunt—uncle	happy—sad
back—front	hard—soft
good—bad	heavy—light
big—little	high—low
black—white	huge—tiny
boy—girl	in—out
brother—sister	large—small
clean—dirty	left—right
come—go	long—short
cold—hot	loose—tight
close—open	lose—win
dark—light	mine—yours
daughter—son	new—old
down—up	night—day
dry—wet	noisy—quiet
fast—slow	off—on
fat—thin	old—young
father—mother	over—under
float—sink	pretty—ugly
from—to	right—wrong
give—take	rough—smooth
go—stop	short—tall

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Homophone Word List

Homophones sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings. Use this homophone list to help with your writing.

ant—aunt	meat—meet
ate—eight	night—knight
be—bee	one—won
buy—by—bye	peace—piece
capital—capitol	plain—plane
cent—sent	principal—principle
sight—site	rain—reign
dear—deer	right—write
do—due	road—rode
flea—flee	role—roll
flew—flu	sail—sale
for—four	sea—see
heal—heel	some—sum
hear—here	son—sun
hole—whole	tail—tale
hour—our	toe—tow
in—inn	their—there—they're
knew—new	to—too—two
knot—not	weak—week
mail—male	wood—would

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Contractions Word List

Contractions are formed by combining two words into one, replacing one or more letters with an apostrophe. Here is a list of contractions to help you in your writing.

I'm = I am

I've = I have

he's = he is *or* he has

he'd = he had *or* he would

he'll = he will

she's = she is *or* she has

she'd = she had *or* she would

she'll = she will

we'll = we will

we're = we are

we've = we have

they're = they are

they've = they have

it's = it is

it'll = it will

there'll = there will

you're = you are

you'll = you will

you've = you have

can't = cannot

aren't = are not

shouldn't = should not

wouldn't = would not

couldn't = could not

isn't = is not

haven't = have not

hadn't = had not

hasn't = has not

won't = will not

wasn't = was not

didn't = did not

don't = do not

weren't = were not

let's = let us

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Common Prefixes and Suffixes

Prefixes			Suffixes		
Prefix	Meaning	Examples	Suffix	Meaning	Examples
ab-	from, away from	absent, abduct	-dom	state or condition	freedom, wisdom
ante-	before	antedate, anterior	-en	made of, like	wooden, golden
anti-	against	antiseptic	-er	doer, maker	hunter, writer
bi-	two, twice	bimonthly, bisect	-ese	of a place or style	Chinese
circum-	around	circumnavigate	-esque	in the style of	statuesque
com-, co-, con-	with, together	combine, coexist	-ess	feminine	waitress, lioness
contra-	against	contradict	-et, -ette	little, feminine	islet, usherette
de-	away, from	defect, desert	-ful	full of	thankful
dis-, dif-	opposing	dissent, differ	-hood	state or condition	childhood
ex-	away from, out of	excise, exit	-ish	like	childish
hemi-	half	hemisphere	-ism	creed, doctrine	Americanism
in-, il-	not	incapable, illegal	-ize	make, or cause to be	motorize
inter-	among, between	intermarry	-less	lacking, without	helpless
mis-	badly, poorly, not	misfit, misspell	-ology	study of	biology
non-	not	nonessential	-or	one who does	counselor, actor
peri-	around	perimeter	-scope	instrument for viewing	telescope
post-	after, following	postpone	-ward	in the direction of	homeward
pre-	before	prevent			
pro-	in favor of, forward	propose, proceed			
re-	backward, again	recur, recall			
semi-	half	semicircle			
sub-	beneath	submarine			
super-	over, extra	supervise			
syn-, sym-	together, with	sympathy			
trans-	across, beyond	transport			
ultra-	beyond, overly	ultramodern			
un-	not	untrue, unaware			

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Sequential Words

additionally

after

afterward

always

another

as soon as

at last

at once

at the same time

before

beforehand

during

earlier

(a) few

finally

first

further

furthermore

immediately

in addition

in the first place

last

later

more

next

now

on time

second

since

subsequently

then

thereafter

third

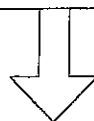
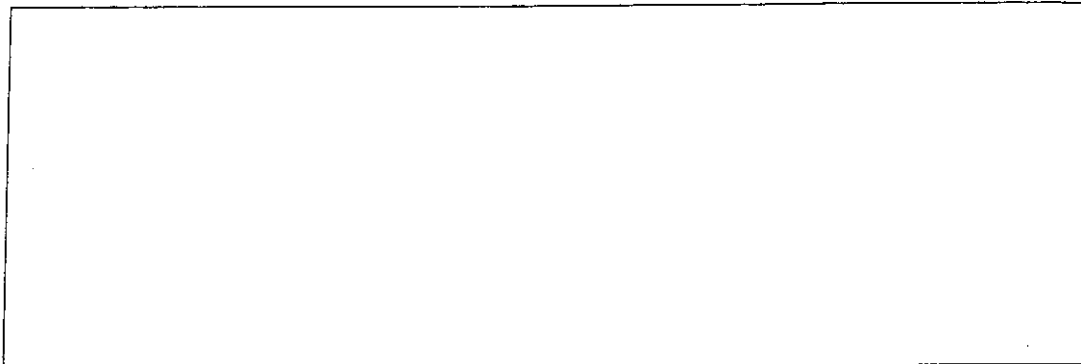
until

when

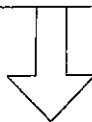
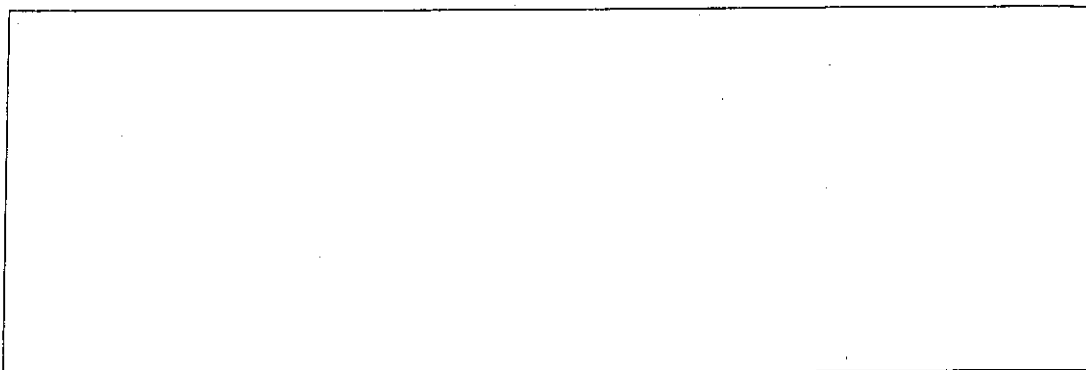
while

Story Structure

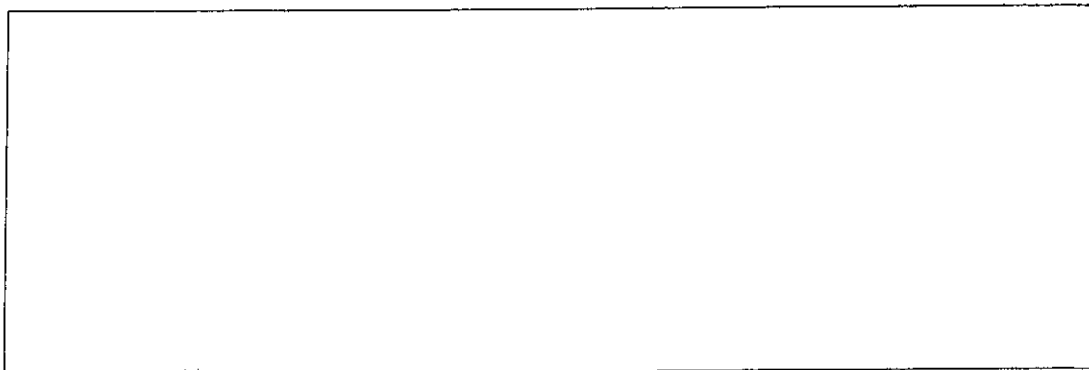
Beginning



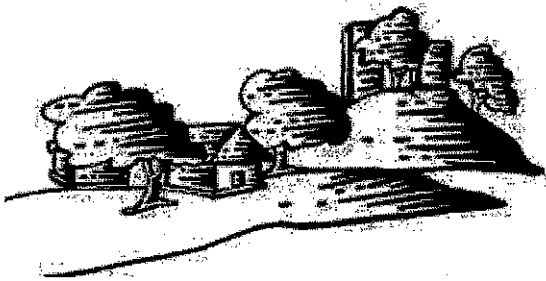
Middle



End



Story Map



Setting:



Characters:

Problem(s):

Solution:

Ending:

Name _____ Date _____

Planning Chart

Circle or write your purpose for writing in the first column. Answer the questions in the second column.

Topic _____

Purpose	Audience
<i>Circle one.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● to tell a real story● to tell a made-up story● to describe a person, place, or thing● to explain how to do something● to find something out● to give an opinion● to ask something● other <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<i>Write answers to these questions.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Who will read this? <hr/><hr/><hr/>2. What do they already know about my topic? <hr/><hr/><hr/>3. What do I want them to know? <hr/><hr/><hr/>4. What part of my topic would interest them most? <hr/><hr/><hr/>

Writing: Story Map

A **story map** helps to organize your thoughts in a logical sequence before you begin to write a story or report.

Directions: Use the following story map to arrange your thoughts for the police report on page 296.

Characters:

Setting: (time, place)

T

Problem: (what needs to be fixed or solved)

I

Goal: (what characters want to accomplish)

├──

Action: (events, reasons)

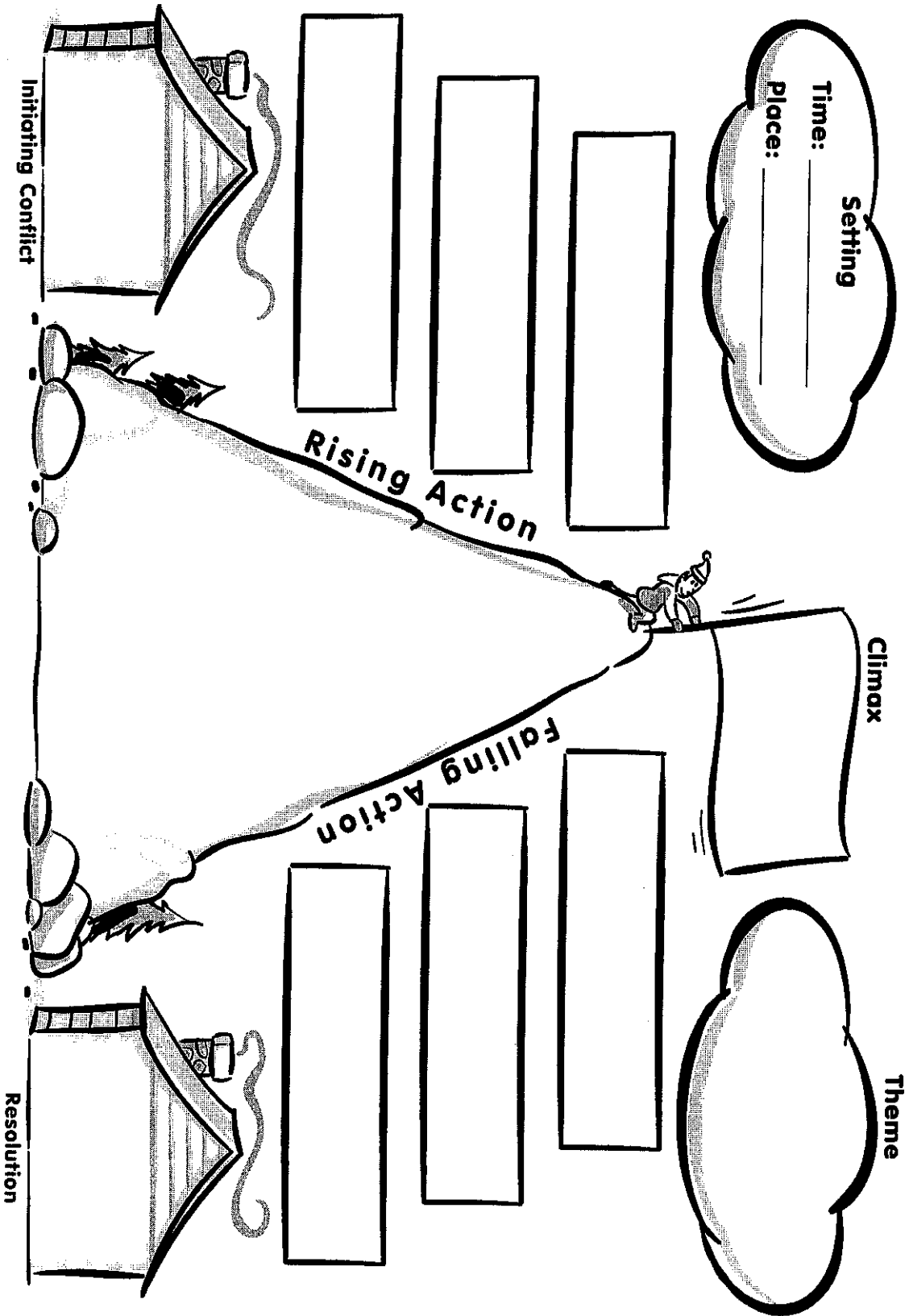
Outcome: (results of action)

Name _____

Date _____

Pleasant Plot

Follow the plot of a story from the beginning conflict to its resolution.



Note Taking

Name _____

Date _____

As you read the book, select the important information to record on the graphic organizer below.

The graphic organizer consists of a central box labeled "BOOK TITLE:" with a vertical line extending from its top and bottom. Six lines radiate from the central box to the corners of six surrounding rectangular boxes, forming a star-like shape. Each of the six surrounding boxes contains five horizontal lines for writing.

