SUPPORTING SENTENCES

Sentences that support the heading are called supporting sentences. Write complete sentences for the lists below. The first one has been done for you.

1. Ways you can earn money
   
   You can mow lawns in the neighborhood.
   
   In the winter you can shovel snow.
   
   You can exercise the neighbor’s dog.
   
   You can weed the vegetable garden.
   
   Sometimes you can earn money babysitting.

2. Things I would do if I won a lottery

   
   
   
   
   

3. Questions you could ask an astronaut

   
   
   
   
   

4. Things people can do to stay healthy

   
   
   
   
   

TOPIC SENTENCES AND SUPPORTING SENTENCES

Writing paragraphs is quite similar to writing lists. The headings you used for lists are called topic sentences when they are used for paragraphs. A topic sentence gives the main idea of a paragraph. In these exercises, practice writing supporting sentences just as you did on the previous page. The first one has been done for you.

1. Dogs need a lot of care.
   
   You have to give them food and water.
   
   You have to see that they get enough exercise.
   
   You have to brush them.

2. I can do several things while I wait for the bus.

3. Animals do various things to survive the winter.

4. Here is what I do when I get home from school.

5. Bicycling is safe if you follow these rules.

Look back at what you have written. Choose your best set of supporting sentences and * it.
SUPPORTING SENTENCES

Write three supporting sentences for each topic sentence.

1. Some animals are useful to humans.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. The room was in a mess.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. My birthday is a special day for several reasons.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. Some people can be very helpful.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. I have several ways of relaxing.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

6. The view from the mountaintop was spectacular.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
SUPPORTING SENTENCES

Practice writing more supporting sentences.

1. There are some things I am still too young to do.

2. This house needs to be fixed up.

3. You have to be brave to do some things.

4. I do several things to help at home.

5. I have had some strange dreams.

Take a careful look at what you have done on these last two pages. Choose your three best sets of supporting sentences and * them. You will need to be able to find them later.
SUPPORTING SENTENCES AND CONCLUDING SENTENCES

A concluding sentence is a final sentence that sums up a paragraph and tells the reader that you have finished your discussion. Write three supporting sentences and a concluding sentence for each topic sentence. The first one has been done for you.

1. The grounds were beautifully kept.

   *The lawns were always freshly mowed.*

   *The hedges and shrubs were neatly clipped.*

   *There was never a weed in the flower beds.*

   C.S. *The owners obviously took great pride in their garden.*

There are often several possibilities for concluding sentences. The example could just as well have concluded with one of these sentences:

   *It required three full-time gardeners to tend these grounds.*
   *In the summer many visitors came to admire the gardens.*

2. When it is hot, I have several ways of staying cool.

C.S.

3. You can do several things to help protect the environment.

C.S.

4. It is fun to watch different animals at a zoo.

C.S.

Reread your work and *your best concluding sentence.*
ORGANIZING A PARAGRAPH

A basic paragraph starts with a topic sentence, which is followed by several supporting sentences. The paragraph ends with a conclusion.

Now you are ready to organize some basic paragraphs of your own. Remember, you need a topic sentence, three supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence. Use the titles below.

Things to Do During Recess

T.S. __________________________________________

1. __________________________________________

2. __________________________________________

3. __________________________________________

C.S. __________________________________________

A Parade

T.S. __________________________________________

1. __________________________________________

2. __________________________________________

3. __________________________________________

C.S. __________________________________________

Happiness

T.S. __________________________________________

1. __________________________________________

2. __________________________________________

3. __________________________________________

C.S. __________________________________________

Reread your work and * your best set of sentences.
BASIC PARAGRAPHS

Take your best set of sentences from the previous page and rewrite it in paragraph form in this space.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Now test yourself by seeing if you can write a good basic paragraph. Make up a title or choose one of the following:

At the Beach Book Rainy Days Balloons

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Now that you know how to write basic paragraphs, write one every day for a while. Use separate sheets of paper. You can choose new topics, or you can go back and turn the work you starred into five-sentence paragraphs with titles.

Notice that a title is not underlined. Just center it and capitalize the first word and all the important words. Skip a line after the title and indent the beginning of your paragraph.
ADJECTIVES

Adjectives describe nouns; they tell more about them. Draw arrows from the adjectives to the nouns they describe. The first two have been done for you.

sharp knife \[\rightarrow\] long, sharp knife
ripe peach \[\rightarrow\] wise leader
rough seas \[\rightarrow\] difficult problem
dark night \[\rightarrow\] intelligent question
rye bread \[\rightarrow\] free speech
swift runner \[\rightarrow\] tough assignment
melted butter \[\rightarrow\] haunted house
clever joke \[\rightarrow\] hasty decision
windy day \[\rightarrow\] starry sky
red, ripe strawberry \[\rightarrow\] big bad wolf
busy old man \[\rightarrow\] warm wool jacket
long, cold winter \[\rightarrow\] loud rock music
noisy, crowded street \[\rightarrow\] long, winding road

Use ten of the phrases above in sentences.

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________
5. ____________________________
6. ____________________________
7. ____________________________
8. ____________________________
9. ____________________________
10. ____________________________
ADJECTIVES

Fill in the blanks with adjectives. Then draw arrows from the adjectives to the nouns. The first one has been done for you.

1. narrow  road  2. __________________________ journey
3. ______________________ hill  4. __________________________ grass
5. ______________________ song  6. __________________________ paper
7. ______________________ island  8. __________________________ waves

Use any three of the phrases above in sentences.

1. __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
3. __________________________________________

Fill in the blanks with nouns. Draw arrows from the adjectives to the nouns.

1. strong __________________________  2. impossible __________________________
3. right __________________________  4. brilliant __________________________
5. intelligent __________________________  6. jagged __________________________
7. Canadian __________________________  8. heroic __________________________

Use any three of these last phrases in sentences.

1. __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
3. __________________________________________

Make up four pairs of adjectives and nouns.

1. __________________________  2. __________________________
3. __________________________  4. __________________________

Use the best pair in a sentence.

________________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADJECTIVES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rewrite, changing the adjective.</td>
<td>Rewrite, changing the noun.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. tall castle</td>
<td>2. tall castle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>old castle</em></td>
<td><em>tall tree</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. fierce dragon</td>
<td>4. fierce dragon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. valuable treasure</td>
<td>6. valuable treasure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. perilous journey</td>
<td>8. perilous journey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. brave knight</td>
<td>10. brave knight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>