

Name _____ Date _____

Writing a Paragraph I

Your assignment is to write a paragraph about your favorite pet. Imagine that you will be writing about your beloved gray cat, Smokey Joe.

Read each of the options below. You will be building a paragraph using these sentences.

Choose the best sentence from each list. After you have chosen the sentence, copy it into the lined area on the practice writing page (or use your own paper).

After you have copied one sentence from each group, re-read your work to make sure you have written the best possible paragraph on the topic of your favorite pet, Smokey Joe.

My Pet, Smokey Joe

1. Choose a good topic sentence

- I don't like cats.
- This is a paragraph about my pet hamster.
- My favorite pet is my cat, Smokey Joe.
- I really like cats.

2. Your second sentence should tell about the topic you chose

- Cats like to chase birds and mice.
- All cats have nine lives.
- My grandma doesn't like Smokey Joe.
- Smokey Joe is a big, fluffy gray Persian cat.
- Next year we are getting a dog.

3. Your third sentence should tell more about your topic.

- He has been my pet since I got him when I was two years old.
- Cats like to scratch with their claws.
- My veterinarian is Dr. Mike.
- Tomorrow I am taking Smokey Joe for a nail trim.
- My dad has bad allergies.

4. The fourth sentence continues with the topic.

- Cats are good hunters.
- Cats can see in the dark.
- My friend Sherry has 3 cats.
- Smokey Joe loves to sleep and purr on my bed.
- Next week is Christmas.

5. This is your final sentence. It must connect to your topic sentence.

- Cats make great pets.
- It costs a lot of money to keep a pet.
- My dad's allergies are getting better.
- My sister loves Smokey Joe, too.
- Smokey Joe is the best pet I have ever had.

Name _____ Date _____

Writing a Paragraph II

Your assignment is to write a paragraph about your favorite season. Imagine that your favorite season is summer.

Read each of the options below. You will be building a paragraph using these sentences. Choose the best sentence from each list. It might help to think of the paragraph as a sandwich – you want the beginning and ending sentences to be like the pieces of bread, which match and serve to hold the sandwich together. The middle sentences are like the sandwich insides – you want them to go with the bread, and you want them to work well together.

After you have chosen the sentence, copy it into the lined area on the practice writing page (or use your own paper).

After you have copied one sentence from each group, re-read your work to make sure you have written the best possible paragraph on the topic of your favorite season.

I Like Summer

- 1. Choose a strong, interesting beginning sentence.**
 - Summer is fun.
 - I like summer.
 - Summer is a hot season.
 - Summer is my favorite season of the year.
 - Soon it will be summer.

- 2. This second sentence must be related to the topic sentence.**
 - Summer is a season of sun and fun.
 - Sometimes summer is too hot.
 - Some people don't like summer.
 - This summer I am going to camp.

- 3. The third sentence should make the paragraph flow smoothly!**
 - I don't like the bugs in summer
 - I hope we go to the lake again.
 - My dog gets too hot in the summer.
 - The best part about summer is having no school to worry about.

- 4. Sentence four - must fill in your sandwich.**
 - Summer means I can play with my friends and stay up late at night.
 - Summer is too short.
 - This summer we had lots of rain.
 - Next summer I'm going to visit Grandma.

- 5. Choose the best closing sentence to complete your sandwich.**
 - I like winter a little bit.
 - Summer is good.
 - Summer is a great season for me.
 - I'm having my friends sleep over this summer.
 - I hope the bugs aren't bad next summer.

Name _____ Date _____

Writing a Paragraph IV

- Choose a topic you know well, or enjoy.
- Make a rough copy - jot down your ideas.
- Remember to “make a sandwich.” In the same way that the two pieces of bread for a sandwich must match, your opening, or topic, sentence must be connected to the closing, final sentence.
- All sentences in the middle must be connected to the topic sentence. If you are writing about cows, don’t start writing about pigs.
- Always check your work, and be ready to rewrite it if it’s not as well written as it can be. Make sure the punctuation is correct, that every sentence is a complete sentence, that the writing isn’t dull, and that the text flows smoothly.

Try It!

My subject will be _____

Topic sentence will be _____

Closing sentence will be connected to the first sentence - by _____

Some ideas to include:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Now form those ideas into a paragraph.

Writing a Paragraph

Name _____ Date _____

Writing a Paragraph - Answers

My Favorite Pet

My favorite pet is my cat, Smokey Joe. Smokey Joe is a big, fluffy gray Persian cat. He has been my pet since I got him when I was two years old. Smoky Joe loves to sleep and purr on my bed. Smokey Joe is the best pet I have ever had.

I Like Summer

Summer is my favorite season of the year. Summer is a season of sun and fun. The best part about summer is having no school to worry about. Summer means I can play with my friends and stay up late at night. Summer is a great season for me.