

Middle School

## Summer Language Arts/Writing Packet Resource

Includes practice for:

### Parts of Speech

Nouns

Adjectives

Adverbs

Pronouns

Conjunctions

Prepositions

Interjections

Mixed Review

### Punctuation and Writing

End Marks- period, exclamation, question mark

Quotation Marks

Commas

Figurative Language

Writing Paragraphs

Writing Activities

75 Summer Writing Prompts for Daily Writing

## The Parts of Speech - nicholasacademy.com

<u>Noun</u>	<u>Pronoun</u>	<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Verb</u>
<p>Describes a person, place, thing, event, idea, etc.</p> <p>Examples: Mom, coach, Toledo, book, party, storm, moment.</p>	<p>A word used in place of a noun.</p> <p>Examples: She, he, it, they, us, I, you, we, them.</p>	<p>Used to describe a noun or pronoun.</p> <p>Examples: Green, blue, fearless, quick, enormous, wonderful.</p>	<p>Tells of an action, a state of being, or an event.</p> <p>Examples: Am, is, are, run, jump, play, raining, reading.</p>
<u>Adverb</u>	<u>Preposition</u>	<u>Conjunction</u>	<u>Interjection</u>
<p>Used to describe everything except nouns and pronouns. It answers questions such as <i>how</i>, <i>when</i>, <i>where</i> or <i>why</i> and often ends in <i>ly</i>.</p> <p>Examples: Near, far, today, now, very, easily, quietly.</p>	<p>Tells the relationship between nouns, pronouns, or other words in a sentence. Most often used before the noun.</p> <p>Examples: He jumped over the fence. I sat beside the fire. We went into the store.</p>	<p>Joins words, phrases or sentences together. Some are used in pairs. Some are adverbs, being used as conjunctions.</p> <p>Examples: And, but, so, either, or, neither, nor, because, finally, still, yet.</p>	<p>A word expressing emotion. Strong interjections are followed by exclamation points. Mild interjections are followed by commas.</p> <p>Examples: Hey! Wow! Ouch! Oh, I think I've got it.</p>

Articles - The words *a*, *an*, and *the*. These are used to signal the presence of a noun.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Identifying Nouns

**Nouns are a part of speech that is used to name or identify animals, things, places, ideas, people, etc. The following passage has many nouns, underline all the nouns you can find.**



In June, Simon asked his mother if she could buy him a dog. Simon had always wanted a dog named Charlie, and now that he was fourteen years old, he thought that he was old enough to have his own pet. Simon's mother told him that if he babysat his little brother, Jack, the whole summer, and showed responsibility; then she would let him get a dog when the next school year started. Every day since then, Simon woke up early every morning, and went on his paper route. He then came home, and babysat Jack until his mother came home from work in the evening. After the summer ended, Simon's mother was impressed with his dedication and decided to get him a dog. Simon wanted to adopt a dog from the shelter, so him and his mother went together to look for a good dog. After looking at a few dogs, Simon decided to adopt a small Jack Russell terrier. Simon finally fulfilled his wish of having a dog named Charlie.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Identifying Nouns Answer Key

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## Abstract and Concrete Nouns

**An abstract noun is a noun that names something that you cannot taste, touch, smell, hear, or see. An abstract noun usually names an idea, feeling, or concept. On the other hand, a concrete noun names something that you can see, hear, taste, smell, or touch. A concrete noun names an object, thing etc. In each of the following sentences, a noun is in bold. Circle the noun if it is a concrete noun, and underline the noun if it is an abstract noun.**

1. He was given an award for his **courage**.
2. The **door** slammed shut.
3. She thought that **happiness** was the most important thing in life.
4. He dropped his **phone** with a crash.
5. **Time** is a great teacher.
6. His art teacher applauded his **creativity**.
7. She moved the **chair** into place.
8. He always made his **bed** before leaving for school.
9. She accidentally stubbed her toe on the **table**.
10. He had put on too much **perfume**.
11. The **car** zoomed by the pedestrians.
12. She believed in **justice** above all.
13. The children spilled juice on the **keyboard**.
14. She looked at herself in the **mirror**.
15. She craved **freedom**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Abstract and Concrete Nouns Answer Key

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Adjectives in Sentences

Adjectives are words that modify characteristics of nouns.

Circle the adjective that modifies the underlined noun in each sentence below/

Example: The small red shiny beetle scampered down the green leaf.

1. Ten puppies are playing in the tall, green grass.
2. Where is the small frying pan?
3. Sam has a blue racing bicycle.
4. The black kitten was playing with a small red ball.
5. Do you know the man in the black leather jacket?
6. I have seven colored marking pens for school.
7. The city is big, dirty, and noisy.
8. Three ugly witches made a magic potion.
9. That is the biggest stuffed toy in the shop.
10. He ran through the wet muddy field.
11. Hand me the yellow plastic bowl.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

12. The blue vase was broken by the naughty boy.

13. The black and white cat climbed the fence.

14. David has a red apple, but Sam has a green one.

15. Sam's apple is sour.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Noun or Adjective! What is it?**

Decide whether the underlined word in the following sentences is used as a noun or an adjective.

Example: Max went for a very long walk. Adjective

1. James flew his kite very high. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Can you help me build a tall shed? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Crissy always has creamy yogurt for lunch. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I really like vanilla ice cream. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you ever used that big shovel? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Daisies are my favorite white flower. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Labrador Retrievers are great dogs for kids. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Kelly house has a bright orange mailbox. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Which movie did you watch? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Bobby built a huge fort for his kids. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Can I have some grape flavor in my ice? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

12. Jeff eats red peppers all the time. \_\_\_\_\_

13. My favorite color door is red. \_\_\_\_\_

14. Are you going to the go cart races? \_\_\_\_\_

15. I need four yellow sticks to finish my project. \_\_\_\_\_

16. I only need an apple scent to finish my collection.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## What is an Adverb?



**Adverbs give us more information about the verb (action) in a sentence. An adverb tells us *how*, *when*, or *where* something was done.**

**Many of the adverbs that tell *how* are easy to find in a sentence because they end in the letters *-ly*.**

**Example: He ran *quickly* so he wouldn't miss the bus.**

**Some people think that all adverbs end in *-ly*, but they don't.**

**Only some of the adverbs that tell us *when* end in *-ly*.**

**Example: They *rarely* call me. We *always* sing together. Amy will speak *now*.**

**Few adverbs that tell us *where* end in *-ly*.**

**Example: You can put your project *here*. The sun is shining *outside*.**

**Circle the adverb in each sentence below. On the line in front of the sentence, tell whether the adverb answers *how*, *when*, or *where*.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Scott carefully finished his homework.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ We're going to the store today.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The energetic dog ran away.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The noisy helicopter was flying high in the sky.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The young girl and her partner danced gracefully.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ We often eat dinner with our friends.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ He cleaned the carpet inside the house.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ My cousin is never afraid.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ They recently moved into our neighborhood.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ My mom and dad are happily married.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_



*how*

*how much*

# Identifying Adverbs

*where*

*when*

An adverb gives more information about a verb in a sentence. It usually answers the questions: *how, how much, where, or when.*

Circle the adverbs and adverbial phrases in each sentence. Underline the verb that the adverb or adverb phrase modifies.

1. Alexandra practiced soccer frequently.
2. Jeffrey always wanted to be an astronaut.
3. Aaron's father sang the song loudly.
4. The small girl eagerly licked her ice cream cone.
5. My parents will arrive tomorrow.
6. We skied on the tallest mountain.
7. Alice fell into the rabbit hole.
8. We expect rain all week.
9. The angry bear in the forest growled menacingly.
10. The captain quickly boarded the boat anchored in the harbor.
11. The show will begin soon.
12. The sneaky snake slithered swiftly and silently.
13. Jessica and Ashleigh are reading their books in the yard.
14. My next-door neighbors often visit their grandmother.
15. Janie and her friend play hopscotch on the sidewalk.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



how

how much

# Identifying Adverbs

where

when

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Circle the adverbs and adverbial phrases in each sentence. Underline the verb that the adverb or adverb phrase modifies.

1. Alexandra practiced soccer (frequently)
2. Jeffrey (always) wanted to be an astronaut.
3. Aaron's father sang the song (loudly)
4. The small girl (eagerly) licked her ice cream cone.
5. My parents will arrive (tomorrow)
6. We skied (on the tallest mountain).
7. Alice fell (into the rabbit hole)
8. We expect rain (all week)
9. The angry bear in the forest growled (menacingly).
10. The captain (quickly) boarded the boat anchored in the harbor.
11. The show will begin (soon)
12. The sneaky snake slithered (swiftly) and (silently)
13. Jessica and Ashleigh are reading their books (in the yard)
14. My next-door neighbors (often) visit their grandmother.
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Identifying Adverbs III

Read the following story. Circle every single-word adverb the author uses. Remember that adverbs can modify a verb or adjective, or they can show comparison.

The Main Street Library closed for the day on the evening of December 8th. On that night the security guard did not check between every shelf carefully. When he left, he switched off the lights and eagerly bolted the door behind him. He did not know that Andy Fiddel was sitting in the science section of the library.

When the library became dark, Andy slowly closed his science book. He headed downstairs, but the security guard was completely gone by the time Andy reached the lobby.

Being only a young boy of eight years old, he didn't quite know what to do. For a few minutes he pounded furiously on the locked door and yelled loudly. But the cars outside passed by quickly, and they couldn't hear him. After a moment he became very bored with this useless activity. Suddenly, an idea flashed through his mind. He thought he could happily spend hours here!

He easily found the light switch, then returned to his book. He finished it rapidly and moved to the next book. He read about leeches, lizards, and other fantastically creepy creatures. He carefully read Shakespeare's beautifully written sonnets. He read excitedly, then greedily, then hungrily. He read faster and faster and blinked less and less frequently. His red eyes ached and his empty stomach complained loudly.

He was totally involved in a book about American history when he suddenly heard a voice ring through the library. A friend of the library manager had noticed the lights in the library. She phoned the manager promptly. The manager now called to Andy. Andy began explaining that he was there accidentally. His parents arrived, running eagerly through the door. He soon explained everything, and they finally went home.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Identifying Adverbs III

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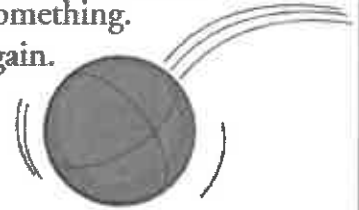
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Why Do We Need Pronouns?

Pronouns take the place of nouns when we are writing or talking about something. It would be very tiresome if we had to repeat the same noun over and over again. Just look at how long it takes to express ideas without using pronouns:



## A Day at the Park

Sammy went to the park with Sammy's mother and Sammy's father. Sammy and Sammy's mother and Sammy's father ran on the lawn. Then Sammy's father pushed Sammy on the swings while Sammy's mother smiled and watched. Then Sammy's mother spread out a blanket on the lawn and read a book while Sammy and Sammy's father played catch with a ball. Sammy threw the ball too hard, and Sammy's father had to chase after the ball. Sammy did some somersaults, rolling forward on Sammy's head and kicking Sammy's feet up over Sammy's head. Sammy giggled and lay on the grass until Sammy's dad came back. Sammy, Sammy's mother, and Sammy's father ate sandwiches together before Sammy, Sammy's mother, and Sammy's father went back home.

Choose the appropriate pronouns from the Word Bank to fill in the blanks and make the story easier to read.

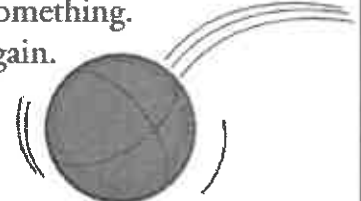
Word Bank:

his   it   his   them   his   they   his   his   his  
they   it   his   she   him   his   his   he   his

Sammy went to the park with \_\_\_\_\_ mother and \_\_\_\_\_ father.  
\_\_\_\_\_ ran on the lawn. Then \_\_\_\_\_ father pushed \_\_\_\_\_  
on the swings while \_\_\_\_\_ mother smiled and watched. Then \_\_\_\_\_  
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Word Bank: his it his them his they his his his they it his she him his his he his

Student's answers may vary.

Sammy went to the park with his mother and his father.

They ran on the lawn. Then his father pushed him on the swings while his mother smiled and watched. Then she spread out a blanket on the lawn and read a book while Sammy and his father played catch with a ball. Sammy threw it too hard, and his father had to chase after it. Sammy did some somersaults, rolling forward on his head and kicking his feet up over his head. They giggled and lay on the grass until his dad came back. All three of them ate sandwiches together before they went back home.

## Pronouns

A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun.

example: John is a mail carrier. John carries a blue bag.

To make the second sentence sound better, you can change the word *John* to *he*.

new sentence: John is a mail carrier. He carries a blue bag.

The word *he* is a pronoun that takes the place of the word *John*.



*Some common pronouns include:*

*I, you, he, she, it, we, they, you, him, her, them, it, us*

**Rewrite each sentence. Change the underlined word or words to a pronoun.**

1. Sarah made dinner for the whole family.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Tyler played tag with Miguel and Ramon.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Mr. Cane went to the movies with Mrs. Cane.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. The house needs a fresh coat of paint.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Pronouns**

Circle the pronouns in the sentences below.

Some sentences have more than one pronoun.

5. She went to the store with Angela.
6. Six of us had to squeeze in the tiny car.
7. Every Thursday, Kenny goes to Wal-Mart with them.
8. At the store, the cashier gave her some change.
9. When the sun comes up, he leaves for work.
10. I enjoyed seeing them on the playground.
11. Have you hung the painting on the wall yet?
12. If I eat all of these vegetables, mother will let me watch television.
13. We played with the puppy, then fed her a biscuit.
14. Have you seen the sandcastle we built?
15. I bounced the ball and Jack ran after it.



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Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Conjunctions**

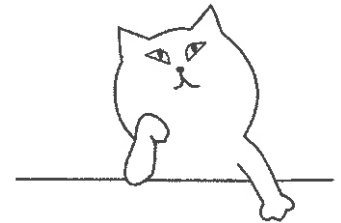
## Conjunctions

**Conjunctions** are used to connect words in a sentence, or to connect complete sentences. When conjunctions are used, the result is a compound structure. A comma is used before the conjunction to separate the clauses. Three common conjunctions are *and*, *but* and *or*.

Haley reads books, **and** she also writes them.

Alan tried hard, **but** he still lost the match.

We will take a walk, **or** we will go for a swim.

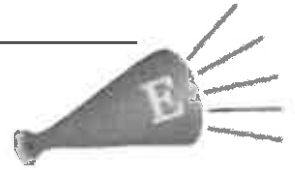


**DIRECTIONS:** Use the conjunctions indicated to join the sentences below.

1. Mark ate pizza. Jim ate pasta. (but)
2. Will we wait? Will we go? (or)
3. Frank rode his bike. Jim walked. (and)
4. Ann has a pet dog. Kim has a pet turtle. (but)
5. I will eat a sandwich. I will drink water. (and)
6. Don wrote the letter. Millie mailed the letter. (but)
7. George is sick. George still has an appetite. (but)
8. Do you want to go a movie? Do you want to stay home? (or)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## Three Cheers for Interjections!

Interjections show excitement and emotion. They demonstrate a feeling, such as pleasure, disappointment, fear, surprise, pain or confusion. An interjection can also be an exclamation or an expression that can stand alone in a sentence. Greetings, such as "Hi!" and expressions, like "excuse me," are interjections, too. See how many interjections you can find in the word search below.



C D Y Q L N G H A D K Y G V S  
W B J G G O Y U H J A K S N V  
Z H C I O J T H A R E B O W T  
E F O D K C U Y O E Z I O F M  
M X B O N R W O P H T W K E E  
J Y W M P Y H P S A H E L L O  
E B A Y A S I D L Y D S Y E W  
Q A H Y N Y C U I A J S E Q B  
Z L O Q U V T W H O R O W E H  
E G O N J A C A L Z W Z W C H  
R V S A R U H H G C G N U H O  
O X O G Z X Q C E D L O R V I  
K H N M F A P G X E X H A A P  
W O X F Q Y R R O S R R V P D  
C C K M D I I B M M B S T L K



AHA  
CHEERS  
DARN  
GOODBYE  
HELLO  
HUH  
SORRY  
WHOA  
WOW  
YIPPEE

BRAVO  
CONGRATULATIONS  
EEK  
HAHA  
HOORAY  
OUCH  
WAHOO  
WHOOPS  
YAY  
YUCK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Spot the Preposition: Answers

Read the following sentences carefully and underline the preposition.

1. Jenny placed her lunchbox inside her bag.
2. Craig left the house before sunrise.
3. Ben saw Daisy playing across the road.
4. Hannah keeps all of her teddy bears on top of her wardrobe.
5. Claire hid the sweets behind her back.
6. Lisa fell over during her basketball game.
7. Thomas checked to see if his keys had fallen underneath his chair.
8. Mrs Monroe asked the children to go into her classroom.
9. After lunch, the children were allowed to play.
10. Ryan climbed onto the donkey.

Now fill in the blank space with the correct preposition from the options provided.

1. James wore a blindfold and had his hands tied ..... his back.
  - a. behind
  - b. above
  - c. on
2. Anita wore her necklace ..... her neck.
  - a. into
  - b. underneath
  - c. around
3. The Jefferson family eat their dinner ..... the table.
  - a. next to
  - b. beside
  - c. at



Name \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Language Arts

Choose the answer that is a complete and correctly written sentence.

- |   |
|---|
| 1. <input type="radio"/> A We feeling awkward because we were not familiar with the customs of the Germans.<br><input type="radio"/> B Max finding a big toad in him garden.<br><input type="radio"/> C The front of our car is dented.<br><input type="radio"/> D I had to runs an errand for my mother.           |
| 2. <input type="radio"/> A Carl was foolish to think that his parents wood believe his lie.<br><input type="radio"/> B Mom gave me a quarter fore feeding the dog.<br><input type="radio"/> C David hit the ball at the window.<br><input type="radio"/> D If John is not listening, he will misses his assignment. |

In each sentence one noun is missing. Write one noun to complete the sentence.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 3. My little <u>(your noun)</u> likes to copy me a lot.<br>_____     | 4. Jan went to the store, bought two-dozen eggs, and walked <u>(your noun)</u> .<br>_____ |
| 5. Chuck wants to be a <u>(your noun)</u> when he grows up.<br>_____ | 6. My friend has five <u>(your noun)</u> .<br>_____                                       |

Write the adjectives in each sentence. \* Describing word

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 7. Sal cannot run as fast as Ace. (1 adjective)<br>_____       | 8. My father likes hot coffee. (1 adjective)<br>_____                 |
| 9. Grandpa gave me a new fishing pole. (2 adjectives)<br>_____ | 10. My little brother likes to copy me a lot. (2 adjectives)<br>_____ |

**Circle the correct word that best completes each sentence.**

- |   |
|---|
| 11. Admiral Peary ( <b>flew, flu, flue</b> ) over both the North and South Poles.   |
| 12. He traveled widely and ( <b>gnu, knew, new</b> ) many important people.   |
| 13. A ( <b>carat, caret, carrot</b> ) is a mark made on written or printed material to show where something should be inserted. |
| 14. When Mom told my sister she couldn't go to the party, the ( <b>fir, fur</b> ) really began to fly!                          |
| 15. The ( <b>chord, cord</b> ) from my computer would not reach the wall outlet from the corner desk.                           |

**Which word in each sentence is an adverb?** \* Usually ends in "ly "

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 16. My nephew was born prematurely and, therefore, had some problems with his lungs.<br>_____                     | 17. As wintertime approaches, Canada geese instinctively fly south to a warmer climate.<br>_____            |
| 18. Hailey recently asked her parents for a new stereo, but they told her to wait a little while longer.<br>_____ | 19. Jasmine's mom shops weekly at the grocery store on the corner of Brown Street and 21st Avenue.<br>_____ |

**Circle the verb that best completes each sentence.**

- |  |
|--|
| 20. Mr. Jameson ( <b>write, wrote</b> ) an e-mail to his wife.                           |
| 21. We have to ( <b>pay, paid</b> ) tax on shower soap.                                  |
| 22. The mother bird ( <b>bring, brought</b> ) food back to the nest.                     |
| 23. If you have ever ( <b>meet, met</b> ) Mrs. Anderson, then you know how sweet she is. |
| 24. The new teacher ( <b>speak, spoke</b> ) about his trip to Japan.                     |

**Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.**

- |   |
|---|
| 25. "Where are my new shoes?" ( <b>she, her</b> ) asked. "I want to wear them today."               |
| 26. Beautiful brunette Sally just couldn't wait to dye ( <b>she, her</b> ) hair red!                |
| 27. We love to hear Grandma's stories about things that ( <b>she, her</b> ) did when she was young. |
| 28. Mom had trouble trying to thread the needle after she lost ( <b>she, her</b> ) glasses.         |
| 29. Henry's mother was twenty years old when ( <b>she, her</b> ) got married.                       |

Read each sentence. Mark the space for the answer that shows correct punctuation and capitalization for the underlined words.

<p>30. <u>Milwaukee's</u> first snowfall reached a total of 14 inches in some areas.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Milwaukee's</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Milwaukeees</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Milwauke'es</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Correct as is</p>	<p>31. <u>Jacob's</u> directions were so bad Emma got lost.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Jaco'bs</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Jacobs</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Jacobs'</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Correct as is</p>
--	--


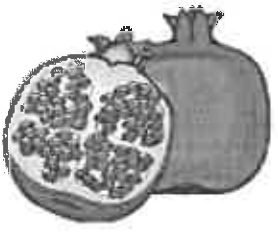
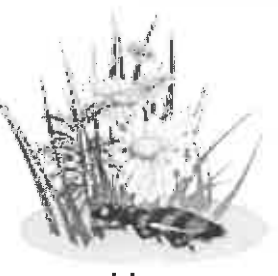
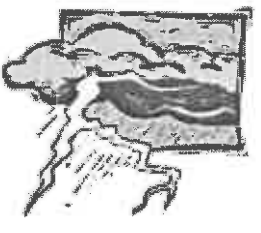
Write the contraction for the underlined words.

<p>32. _____ Debbie <u>should not</u> use a pen when she does her math homework.</p>	
<p>33. _____ I don't think <u>it will</u> snow tonight, do you?</p>	
<p>34. _____ Do you think <u>he will</u> win the race?</p>	

Put each group of words in alphabetical order by writing 1, 2, 3, or 4 on the line before each word. Put a 1 next to the word that comes FIRST in alphabetical order. Put a 4 next to the word that comes LAST.

<p>35. _____ lamb</p>	<p>_____ lecture</p>	<p>_____ limit</p>	<p>_____ lap</p>
<p>36. _____ guide</p>	<p>_____ rigid</p>	<p>_____ decimal</p>	<p>_____ state</p>
<p>37. _____ lilac</p>	<p>_____ visitor</p>	<p>_____ it's</p>	<p>_____ everything</p>

Unscramble each word.

<p>38.  gcoek _____</p>	<p>39.  rpotnaemag _____</p>	<p>40.  siday _____</p>	<p>41.  nrumdstoerth _____</p>
--	---	---	---

## 29.1 End Marks • Practice 1

**Uses of the Period** Use a period to end a declarative or imperative sentence, an indirect question, and most abbreviations.

PERIODS
<i>Declarative Sentence:</i> The stone is large and smooth.
<i>Interrogative Sentence:</i> Open the window about six inches.
<i>Indirect Question:</i> I asked him what he wanted.
<i>Abbreviations:</i> Conn. (Connecticut) Rd. (Road)

**Uses of the Question Mark** Use a question mark to end an interrogative sentence.

QUESTION MARKS
<i>Interrogative Sentence:</i> What is your telephone number?

**Uses of the Exclamation Mark** Use an exclamation mark to end an exclamatory sentence, an urgent imperative sentence, and most interjections.

EXCLAMATION MARKS
<i>Exclamatory Sentence:</i> What a remarkable pass!
<i>Imperative Sentence:</i> Don't let go of the wheel!
<i>Interjection:</i> Good grief! She won.

**Exercise 1** **Using End Marks Correctly.** Write the proper end mark at the end of each item.

**EXAMPLE:** What a wonderful achievement \_\_\_\_\_ !

- How many pairs of shoes do you have \_\_\_\_\_
- Beethoven wrote nine symphonies \_\_\_\_\_
- I have an interview with Rinaldo and Son, Inc \_\_\_\_\_
- June won the first prize. Hurray \_\_\_\_\_
- We asked them when they wanted to leave \_\_\_\_\_
- Some batteries contain sulfuric acid \_\_\_\_\_
- Where is Ethiopia \_\_\_\_\_
- What an astounding performance \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you read *A Day No Pigs Would Die* \_\_\_\_\_
- Choose another uniform \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 2** **Supplying End Marks.** Write a sentence using each of the following end marks.

**EXAMPLE:** Period \_\_\_\_\_ *She wrote a report on proper manners.*

- Question Mark \_\_\_\_\_
- Exclamation Mark \_\_\_\_\_
- Period \_\_\_\_\_
- Question Mark \_\_\_\_\_
- Exclamation Mark \_\_\_\_\_

# Using the Question Mark

A **question mark (?)** is used at the end of every interrogative sentence. It shows that a question has been asked. The question mark tells you to raise the pitch of your voice.

Have you seen Myron?      May I borrow your pen?

**Use a question mark at the end of every interrogative sentence.**

**Use question marks correctly.** Add either a period or a question mark at the end of each sentence.

1. Does Miranda collect shells
2. Will you help decorate the nursery
3. New Hampshire is our destination for vacation this summer
4. Have you ever made trail mix for a snack
5. I heard that story on the news
6. Ask Ms. Sistik to give you the key
7. How do you change the batteries on this toy
8. The Marshalls need a new babysitter
9. What did that sign say
10. Can you go skating with me on Saturday
11. How much will it cost to mail this letter to France
12. My camera has an automatic flash attachment
13. Fifty-six people tried out for the hockey team
14. Did you see that movie
15. Can anyone tell me what time it is
16. How are circus animals trained
17. Who is that girl carrying the guitar
18. Doesn't anyone remember who recorded that song
19. Is Mr. Statler the director of the class play
20. The popularity of soccer is growing rapidly in the United States

# Using the Exclamation Point

An **exclamation point (!)** is used at the end of every exclamatory sentence and after words or phrases that show strong feeling. The exclamation point signals surprise, joy, fear, excitement, or shock.

Watch out for that car!

Hey! Look out!

Help!

Oh, no!

**Use an exclamation point at the end of an exclamatory sentence or word.**

**Use exclamation points correctly.** Add either a period, a question mark, or an exclamation point where needed.

1. Let me try that game
2. Ouch That hurt
3. Did you read the directions first
4. Hooray We won
5. Where did we put the envelopes
6. Follow the arrows until you reach the office
7. Oh, boy Where did you find ice cream
8. This melon tastes terrific
9. What did you name your new puppy
10. Sandra sits next to me in reading
11. Whew That was close
12. Give me a call when you arrive
13. Look out That can of paint is about to spill
14. Denise won an honorable mention for her pen and ink sketch
15. Wow Look at the 1958 Thunderbird
16. Can we walk to the stadium, or should we take a bus
17. Hey Watch out for that car
18. Ugh This color looks terrible on me
19. Were you nervous before the curtain went up
20. Rush-hour traffic seems worse on Friday

# Using the Period

Use a period at the ends of declarative and most imperative sentences.

**Declarative:** Maple trees lose their leaves in the fall.

**Imperative:** Voice your opinion.

Use a period after an initial in a name.

Franklin D<sup>t</sup> Roosevelt    Maria A<sup>t</sup> Gonzalez    Mary M<sup>t</sup> Bethune

Use a period after most abbreviations.

<b>Days of the week:</b>	Mon <sup>t</sup>	Tues <sup>t</sup>	Wed <sup>t</sup>	
<b>Months:</b>	Dec <sup>t</sup>	Oct <sup>t</sup>		
<b>Geographic terms:</b>	Rd <sup>t</sup>	St <sup>t</sup>	U <sup>t</sup> S <sup>t</sup> A <sup>t</sup>	Mich <sup>t</sup>
<b>Time:</b>	A <sup>t</sup> M <sup>t</sup>	P <sup>t</sup> M <sup>t</sup>		
<b>English measure:</b>	oz <sup>t</sup>	in <sup>t</sup>	ft <sup>t</sup>	yd <sup>t</sup>
<b>Titles:</b>	Ms <sup>t</sup>	Mr <sup>t</sup>	Dr <sup>t</sup>	
<b>Other terms:</b>	Co <sup>t</sup>	(Company)	P <sup>t</sup> O <sup>t</sup>	(Post Office)

Abbreviations of metric measurements, state abbreviations created by the United States Postal Service, and certain other abbreviations do not take periods.

m (meter)    gr (grain)  
IL (Illinois)    FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

Use a period after each number or letter that shows a division of an outline.

Types of Storms  
I<sup>t</sup> Funnel cloud storms  
  A<sup>t</sup> Tornadoes  
  B<sup>t</sup> Waterspouts  
II<sup>t</sup> Tropical storms

Use periods correctly. Supply the missing periods where needed.

- The President lives in Washington, D C
- My appointment with Dr Joan R Lynch is at 2:00 P M
- Bring the napkins and silverware to the table
- Add 1 lb of butter, 1 doz eggs, 8 oz of milk, and whip for 10 min
- I'm returning the package COD
- Rev Billy Graham is speaking tonight at 8:00 P M
- Jesse's new address is 578 Windsor Dr, Boston, Massachusetts
- Types of Dogs
  - Long-haired dogs
    - Afghans
    - Cocker Spaniels
    - Collies
  - Short-haired dogs
    - Beagles
    - Dachshunds

Using Quotation Marks Worksheet - 2

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Combine the sentences below to make one set of dialogue. Be sure to add correct capitalization and punctuation marks.

Example:      A. when the princess came down for breakfast, the queen asked ^  
                  B. how did you sleep dear  
*When the princess came down for breakfast, the queen asked, "How did you sleep dear?"*

1.    A. the princess politely said ^  
      B. fine, thank you

---

---

2.    A. ^ the princess told her mother  
      B. I think I'll wander down by the pond

---

---

3.    A. ^ a frog said in his most pathetic voice ^  
      B. pardon me princess  
      C. I wonder if you could help me

---

---

4.    A. ^ the princess asked kindly  
      B. what can I do to help you, little frog

---

---



5. A. ^ he answered ^  
B. well, I'm not really a frog  
C. I'm a handsome prince who was turned into a frog by a witch
- 
- 
- 

6. A. ^ replied the princess  
B. I guess I could kiss you
- 
- 
- 

7. A. after she kissed him, the frog said ^  
B. just kidding  
C. then he jumped back in the pond
- 
- 
- 

8. A. ^ exclaimed the princess, wiping the frog slime from her lips.  
B. yuck
- 
- 
- 

9. A. later the princess went back to the pond and spoke to the frog ^  
B. I've brought a friend to see you, frog
- 
- 
- 

10. A. ^ said the Fairy Godmother, as she turned the frog into a fly ^  
B. abracadabra  
C. that will teach you to mess with a princess
- 
- 
-

# Take a Break With Commas

**Commas** usually keep together words that belong and separate words that do not. This helps sentences make sense. See below for other reasons to use a comma.

- 1:** To separate things in a series (three or more things). Use a comma after the last thing in the series (before the word *and* or *or*).

I will need two cups of slime, six anchovies, three cups of pineapple juice, and a pinch of honey for my soup.

My favorite numbers are one, two, five, and seven.

- 2:** Before the words *and*, *but*, *or*, *nor*, *for*, *so*, and *yet* when they join two independent clauses. (An independent clause can stand on its own as a simple sentence.)

I like pizza with mushrooms and artichokes, but no one else seems to like that combination.

- 3:** To separate nonessential clauses or phrases.

Cindy, who owns 56 pairs of shoes, bought four more pairs today.

- 4:** To separate introductory words (including interjections) or phrases. (An interjection is a word that expresses emotion.)

After we finished painting the fence, we played video games.

Well, she started it!

- 5:** To separate street, town, state, and country names.

The office address is 999 Humdinger Street, Suite 13, Ithaca, New York.

**Commas also separate the day of the month and the year.**

My surprise party is on May 4, 2006.

- 6:** After the greeting in a friendly letter or the closing in all letters.

capital letters  
commas punctuation  
who needs them

Dearest Jane,  
I miss you.

Sincerely,  
Tarzan

You do,  
Fred!




Name \_\_\_\_\_


# USE A COMMA!

Add commas where needed.

1. We should get a pizza soda ice cream and lizard lips for the party.
2. Wow she climbed that skyscraper!
3. I didn't know he could play the guitar banjo and fiddle.
4. Our last game is on Wednesday February 23.
5. Catfish Johnson lived in Sparksdale Alberta Canada.
6. It's cold outside but I don't mind.
7. Camping is fun but I'll need a tent sleeping bag and warm clothes.
8. Hey will you be on the class trip on May 7 2007?
9. She couldn't live in Quito Ecuador.
10. My mom the greatest cook in the world makes amazing flapjacks!
11. Dear Bob Please come and get your dog cat rat bird and fleas. Love Mom
12. She doesn't plan to go to the party nor does she want to go to the game.
13. With that magic trick he received a standing ovation.
14. They say the park which used to be a cemetery is haunted.
15. The best arcade in the state is on 56 Crash Lane Peach City.



Did you know that commas help give readers a break? They can take a breath before continuing to read the rest of a sentence.



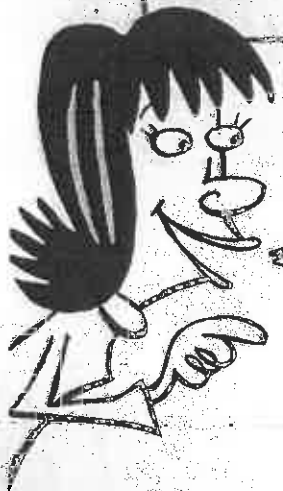
Really? That's great! I could use a comma right now!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

USE A  
COMMA!

Add commas where needed.

1. We should get a pizza soda ice cream and lizard lips for the party.
2. Wow she climbed that skyscraper!
3. I didn't know he could play the guitar banjo and fiddle.
4. Our last game is on Wednesday February 23.
5. Catfish Johnson lived in Sparksdale Alberta Canada.
6. It's cold outside but I don't mind.
7. Camping is fun but I'll need a tent sleeping bag and warm clothes.
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Did you know that commas help give readers a break? They can take a breath before continuing to read the rest of a sentence.

Really? That's great! I could use a comma right now!



Figures of speech can make sentences more interesting. Here are four popular kinds of figures of speech:



**Personification**—gives human characteristics to things.  
Example: The sun touched us with its warm fingers.

**Hyperbole**—a great exaggeration.  
Example: She's the happiest person in the universe.

**Simile**—compares two unlike things, using like or as.  
Example: He is hungry as a horse.

**Metaphor**—only suggests a comparison of two unlike things.  
Example: The vacant field was a desert.

Read each sentence. Underline the figure of speech. Write the name of the figure of speech on each line.

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| _____ | 1. The wind howled as the storm grew closer.            |
| _____ | 2. The little lady nibbled at her lunch like a bird.    |
| _____ | 3. Sarah's little sister was a doll in her new clothes. |
| _____ | 4. The camp leader said he would never sleep again.     |
| _____ | 5. The banana cream pie was heaven.                     |
| _____ | 6. We were as busy as bees all day long.                |
| _____ | 7. His patience just flew out the window.               |
| _____ | 8. He said that his life was an open book.              |
| _____ | 9. The newlyweds were as happy as two lovebirds.        |
| _____ | 10. The heavy fog crept slowly to shore.                |
| _____ | 11. The champion wrestler is as strong as an ox.        |
| _____ | 12. The twins were angels for helping their mom.        |
| _____ | 13. I am so full that I never want to eat again.        |
| _____ | 14. Sometimes my memory is a blank tape.                |

Write four sentences which contain a figure of speech.

1. (personification) \_\_\_\_\_
2. (hyperbole) \_\_\_\_\_
3. (simile) \_\_\_\_\_
4. (metaphor) \_\_\_\_\_

# Descriptive Sentences

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Turn a good sentence into a great sentence by using more descriptive words.

Example: The couple cut the cake.  
The newlywed couple cut the five tier wedding cake.



Look at each picture. Read each sentence. Add descriptive words to make each a great sentence. Write the improved sentence on each line.

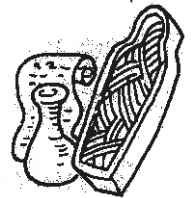


1. The man climbed the mountain.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The group found a buried tomb.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

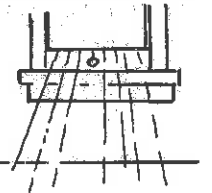


3. The girls painted a sign.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. The sunlight came through the window.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

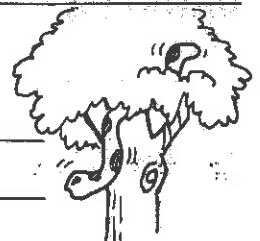


5. Ice cream dripped down the cone.

\_\_\_\_\_

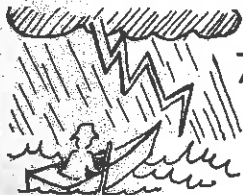
\_\_\_\_\_

6. The snake moved down the tree.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



7. The storm rocked the boat.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A paragraph is a group of sentences about one main idea. When writing a paragraph:



1. Indent the first line.
2. Capitalize the first word of each sentence.
3. Punctuate each sentence.

Example: There are many reasons to write a paragraph. A paragraph can describe something or tell a story. It can tell how something is made or give an opinion. Do you know other reasons to write a paragraph?

Read the paragraphs below. They contain errors. Rewrite the paragraphs correctly on the lines by following the three basic rules:

1. Indent.
2. Capitalize.
3. Punctuate.

the number of teeth you have depends on your age a baby has no teeth at all gradually, milk teeth, or baby teeth, begin to grow later, these teeth fall out and permanent teeth appear by the age of twenty-five, you should have thirty-two permanent teeth.

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my family is going to Disneyland tomorrow we plan to arrive early my dad will take my little sister to Fantasyland first meanwhile, my brother and I will visit Frontierland and Adventureland after lunch we will all meet to go to Tomorrowland

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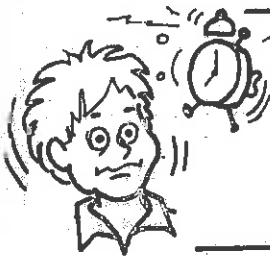
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A paragraph is a group of sentences that tells about one main idea. One of the sentences states the main idea. That sentence is called the topic sentence. The topic sentence is usually the first sentence in the paragraph.

Example: (The topic sentence is underlined.)  
Three planets in our solar system have rings around them. The planets with rings are Saturn, Uranus and Jupiter. The rings are actually thin belts of rocks that orbit the planets. Saturn is the most famous ringed planet.

Underline the topic sentence in the paragraph below.



Every weekday morning I follow a basic routine to get ready for school. I get up about 7 a.m., wash my face and get dressed. Then, I eat breakfast and brush my teeth. Finally, I pack my books and walk to the bus stop.

Read each paragraph idea below. Write a topic sentence for a paragraph about each subject.

1. Homework: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Camping: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Breakfast: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Neighbors: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Gardening: \_\_\_\_\_

Read the paragraph below. Write a topic sentence on the line to begin the paragraph.



\_\_\_\_\_ A giraffe may be as tall as a two-story house—over 20 feet high! Giraffes use their long necks to reach the leaves in tops of trees. Most giraffes live in the grasslands of Africa.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**TOPIC**

What are your favorite foods?

**TOPIC SENTENCE** Write your TOPIC sentence in the box.

Topic Sentence  
\_\_\_\_\_

**BODY** Write each DETAIL sentence in its box.

Detail 1  
\_\_\_\_\_

Detail 2  
\_\_\_\_\_

Detail 3  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CONCLUSION** Write your CONCLUSION sentence in the box. (Reword the topic sentence.)

Conclusion  
\_\_\_\_\_

Copy your complete paragraph (all five sentences) into the box.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**TOPIC**

Which sports do you like the best?

**TOPIC SENTENCE** Write your TOPIC sentence in the box.

Topic Sentence

**BODY** Write each DETAIL sentence in its box.

Detail 1

Detail 2

Detail 3

**CONCLUSION** Write your CONCLUSION sentence in the box. (Reword the topic sentence.)

Conclusion

Copy your complete paragraph (all five sentences) into the box.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**TOPIC**

Who are the last three people you talked to?

**TOPIC SENTENCE** Write your TOPIC sentence in the box.

Topic Sentence

---

**BODY** Write each DETAIL sentence in its box.

Detail 1

---

Detail 2

---

Detail 3

---

**CONCLUSION** Write your CONCLUSION sentence in the box. (Reword the topic sentence.)

Conclusion

---

Copy your complete paragraph (all five sentences) into the box.

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**TOPIC**

What chores are you responsible for at home?

**TOPIC SENTENCE** Write your TOPIC sentence in the box.

Topic Sentence  
\_\_\_\_\_

**BODY** Write each DETAIL sentence in its box.

Detail 1  
\_\_\_\_\_

Detail 2  
\_\_\_\_\_

Detail 3  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CONCLUSION** Write your CONCLUSION sentence in the box. (Reword the topic sentence.)

Conclusion  
\_\_\_\_\_

Copy your complete paragraph (all five sentences) into the box.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**TOPIC**

What do you like about school?

**TOPIC SENTENCE** Write your TOPIC sentence in the box.

Topic Sentence  
\_\_\_\_\_

**BODY** Write each DETAIL sentence in its box.

Detail 1  
\_\_\_\_\_

Detail 2  
\_\_\_\_\_

Detail 3  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CONCLUSION** Write your CONCLUSION sentence in the box. (Reword the topic sentence.)

Conclusion  
\_\_\_\_\_

Copy your complete paragraph (all five sentences) into the box.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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# Summer Fun

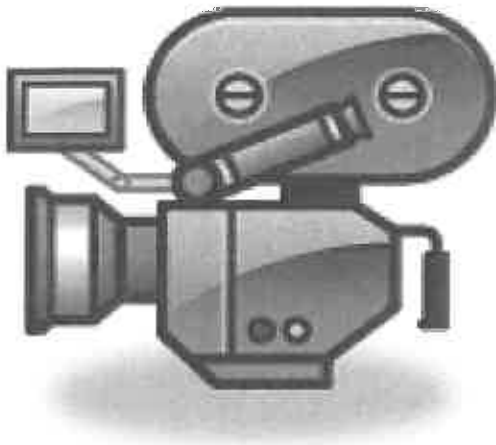
My Summertime Goals...

A Picture of My Favorite Summer Activity

The Things I Will Miss Most About School...

This Summer I Will...





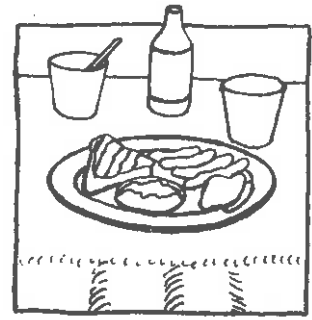
## Teenage Movie Star!

Imagine that a movie about your life is being made. Only **you** know what your life is like and who the main characters in your life story are, so you will have to tell the producers what the movie will be about. Keep in mind that most movies have a **plot** (what the movie is about); a **theme** (a message or lesson that you want viewers to get from the movie); a main **conflict** (a struggle or goal that the main character is trying to either move past or achieve); and a **genre** (mystery, horror, comedy, romance, musical, action/thriller, etc.).

**On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions about your movie:**

1. Who are the main characters? (i.e.: who will play you, your parents, friends, brothers/sisters, other family members, etc.). LIST at least five main characters and the names of the actors who will play them.
2. What is the genre of your movie? (See above for examples of movie genres.)
3. What is the main conflict in your movie? What goal is the main character (you) trying to achieve or what problem/struggle is the main character trying to move past?
4. What message do you want people who watch your movie to get? What lesson(s) should they learn?
5. Most movies also have a musical soundtrack or an album/CD that contains music that was included in the movie. Yours should, too.
  - a. List the names of at least three songs that will be included in your movie and the name(s) of the artist(s).
  - b. Explain why you chose the songs you did and how they relate to your life or help you tell your life story.
6. What will be the title of your movie? Explain why you chose this title?
7. What is the plot (story) of your movie? Write AT LEAST FOUR paragraphs explaining (a) how/where the movie will begin or take place (home, school, etc.); (b) what your movie will be about (what part(s) of your life the movie will focus on); (c) why you think it's important that people watch your movie; and (d) how the movie will end (happy, sad, etc.).

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Planning a Restaurant Review

Congratulations on winning Metro News' Food Critic Contest. As a winner, you had dinner at the fanciest restaurant in town. Now you have been asked to write a review of your experience for the newspaper.

Before writing the review, make some notes about your dining experience.

Name of restaurant: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time you were there: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the outline below:

Foods Eaten	How Cooked (Think adjectives!) (Include sauces, seasoning, tenderness.)	How the Food Tasted
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

How was the service? (Were the waitresses efficient and polite? Did you wait long?)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Conclusion: Did you enjoy the dinner? Would you recommend the restaurant to other people? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



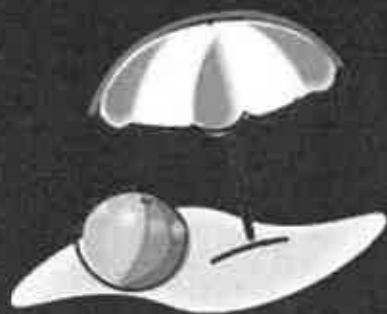




75 Summer

Writing

Prompts



By Genia Connell

# Weekly Writing Prompts

Below are enough writing prompts to keep you busy all summer! **Try to write at least two each month.** You should have a minimum of six pieces of completed writing when school begins in September. (That does not mean write six times the last week of August!) Choose from any of the topics below. You do not have to write them only on that specific day or during that week (For example, it's okay to write about a July topic in August.) Use looseleaf paper or your composition notebook for your writing. Turn your writing into your teacher in the fall, and of course it's okay to have more than six pieces of writing!

## Remember:

- ◆ Do not rush through these writing assignments. Each piece should be an example of quality work. Always reread your work, then reread it again!
- ◆ If a prompt says to write a paragraph, remember to start with an introductory sentence, include 3-5 detail sentences and end with a concluding sentence. That means a minimum of five sentences!
- ◆ Students going into fourth grade know that sentences begin with capital letters as do all proper nouns (specific names of people, places and things.) Fourth graders don't even think of writing sentences that are fragments or do not have ending punctuation. They also know proper spelling is important. Do not "guess" at how to spell words. Look them up or ask!

## June 14



Today is Flag Day. Visit this site, <http://www.usflag.org/history/flagday.html> to learn a little about the history of this holiday. Write a paragraph explaining

## June 15

Did you know today is World Smile Power Day? Make a list of ten kind acts you could do today to make someone smile. Try at least three of the things you wrote down. In your journal write down how people reacted to your efforts. How did it make you feel when you made people smile?



## June 16



Today is Father's Day! Make a card for your dad or another special person in your life that tells him how you feel. Use your best effort to show you care. Draw a nice picture on the front and write your message inside.

### June 17

June is “National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month,” and today is “Eat Your Vegetables Day.” Some kids don’t enjoy eating fruits and vegetables. Write a persuasive letter to a friend who does not like vegetables convincing them of the importance of consuming the daily, recommended amount of fruits and vegetables. Give them three reasons for eating their vegetables and give them at least two ideas of delicious ways to eat vegetables. Remember to have a greeting and a closing on your letter.



### June 18

On this day in 1983, Sally Ride became the first woman in space. What would you like to be the first to do? Go into the future and write a newspaper article that tells the world the *who, what, when* and *where* of your great accomplishment as “*The very first person to ever...*” Include quotes from yourself and other people who know you.



### June 19

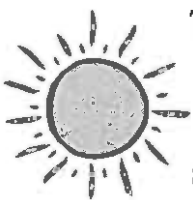
Today is known as *Juneteenth*. This special day commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States in 1865. Write a speech about what freedom means to you. Perform the speech for someone at your home or tape the speech and become your own audience.

### June 20

June is National Safety Month. Using the computer, create a brochure for your classmates that details at least four rules that should always be followed for safety’s sake. Officer Buckle would be so proud of you for choosing this one!



### June 21



Today is the first day of summer! What is your favorite summer activity? Write a paragraph telling what you like to do best during the summer. Remember paragraphs have an introductory sentence, 3-4 detail sentences and a concluding sentence.

### June 22

The largest hailstone on record was recovered on June 22, 2003, in Aurora, Nebraska. With a diameter of seven inches, this hailstone was nearly as large as a soccer ball. Write a fictional narrative about a day that you were outside playing when something unusual started falling from the sky. What was it? What did you do? Remember to start with an attention-grabbing beginning, a middle with important details and an ending that wraps up your story for the audience.



### June 23

On this day in 1868, the typewriter was patented. We have come a long way since the first typewriter. Use a Venn diagram (two intersecting circles) to compare and contrast the typewriter and a laptop computer. How are they the same; how are they different? If you have never seen a typewriter, you may need to do some research to complete this activity!



### June 24



Today is “U.F.O. Day.” The first documented UFO sighting was on this day. Do you believe in UFOs and/or life on other planets? Write a short story about what happened to you one day when you were on your way to school and you saw a spaceship land on your school’s playground. Tell about the adventures you had after coming face to face with an alien!

### June 25

On June 25, 1929, author Eric Carle was born. The Hungry Caterpillar, which was first published in 1969, has now been published in over 30 different languages. Why do you think this book has been so popular with children from around the world? OR What is your very favorite Eric Carle book and why? Give at least two reasons.

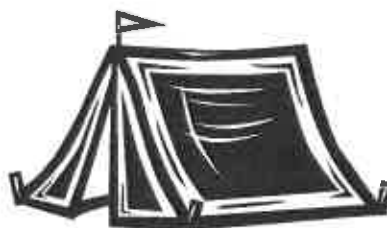


### June 26-30

The last week of June is “National Camping Week.” Plan a camping trip for your family. Be sure to include the following:

- Where would you want to go? Write a paragraph telling where you would like to camp and why.
- What would you need to bring? For this part, make a list of everything you would need for a family camping trip. Don’t forget your toothbrush or items needed for activities like fishing!
- What activities would you like to do at the campsite? Write a second paragraph telling what you would like to do while camping.

Draw a picture of the camping trip you just planned.



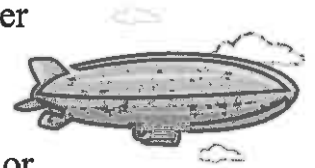
## July 1



July 1 is “International Joke Day.” Many people love to tell jokes. Create several jokes of your own to share with your family. You may want to read a few different types of jokes to help you get started. Write down your five favorite jokes. They can be ones you made up, or ones that you have heard or read somewhere.

## July 2

On this day in 1900, the first Zeppelin (blimp) flew. This ship, named after Ferdinand von Zeppelin, was initially used as an experiment for regular airship travel. While in existence, the ship flew more than one million miles with a perfect passenger safety record. Today we often see blimps, or zeppelins, flying over sporting events. Would you like to travel in an airship like this? Explain why or why not? Then design a blimp decorated any way you like.



## July 3

July 3 marks the beginning of the “Dog Days of Summer.” These days are typically the hottest and most humid time of the year. They get their name due to the fact these days occur when the “Dog Star” Sirius rises before the sun. Write a paragraph about your favorite “Dog Day” activity. What do you like to do best on a hot, lazy day?

## July 4



On July 4, 1776, the United States declared its independence from Britain. Every year we celebrate this holiday with fireworks. How do you think this tradition came to be? Do some research to find out why we use fireworks on the 4th of July. Write a paragraph explaining what you discovered.

## July 5

P.T Barnum was born on this day in 1810. He was a great circus ringmaster and helped start the famous Ringling Brothers, Barnum & Bailey Circus. If you could be a performer in a circus, what would you like to do? Would you train tigers, walk on a tightrope, be a funny clown or do one of the hundreds of other jobs?



Write a paragraph telling what you would like to do at a circus and why. Draw a picture of you doing your job!

## July 6

On July 6th the first picture postcard was made. Design a postcard of a place you have visited or would like to visit. On your postcard, write a note to a friend or family member from that place telling how your vacation is going so far. Remember to include a greeting and a closing.

## July 7

Would you believe July 7th is “Macaroni Day?” Think about your favorite food that includes macaroni. Find a recipe for that dish. What are the ingredients? Make a shopping list that includes everything you would need to buy at the store (assume you have none of the food at home) to make your favorite dish that includes macaroni.

## July 8

On this day in 1835, the Liberty Bell cracked while being rung at the funeral of John Marshall, the longest serving Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1801-1835.) Using books or resources on the Internet, write down five (5) facts about the Liberty Bell that you find the most interesting. Make sure you include (at the end) where you found your information.



## July 9



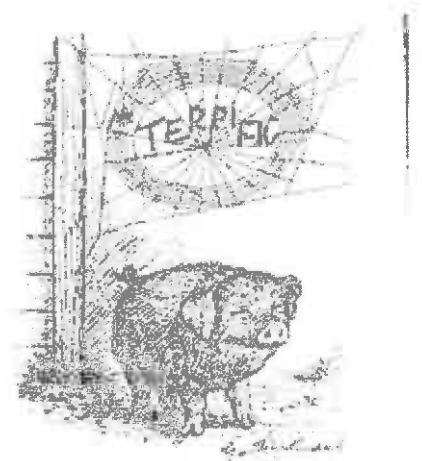
July 9th is “National Sugar Cookie Day.” Describe the ultimate sugar cookie you would like to make, decorate and eat. Write a paragraph that uses very descriptive words that appeal to your readers’ senses of taste, touch, smell and sight. Be sure to include the shape, colors and decorations. Don’t forget to draw a sketch of your amazingly delicious cookie.

## July 10

On July 10, 1916, illustrator Martin Provensen was born. Martin, along with his wife Alice, received the first Caldecott Medal for their illustrations. Martin also worked for Walt Disney where he collaborated on "Dumbo" and "Fantasia." Look up several books that received the Caldecott Medal. Choose one of them and explain why you think it received the award. Tell me the name of the book and the year it received the Caldecott.

## July 11

On this day in 1899, author E.B. White was born. White is the author of *Charlotte’s Web*. Like many classic books, this one was made into a movie. Think about a book you have read (or that we have done as a read aloud in class) that has a movie that goes with it that you have seen. (*Tale of Despereaux*, *Shiloh*, *Indian in the Cupboard*, *James and the Giant Peach* and *Mouse and the Motorcycle*, are all books we read this year that have movies.) Do you think it’s better to read a book before seeing the movie? Why or why not? Write a paragraph that states your opinion and gives at least three reasons to back it up.



### July 12

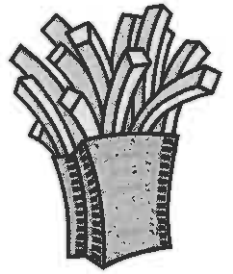
Today is “Paper Bag Day.” It marks the day that the paper bag manufacturing machine was patented. Make a list of ten different things you could do with a brown paper grocery bag. Draw your favorite idea.

### July 13

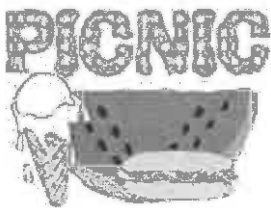
July 13th is “Cheer up the Lonely Day.” When someone you know is feeling lonely or sad, what do you do to help them feel better? Design a “Cheer Up” card that would be appropriate to give to someone who is feeling lonely. Include a message on front of the card as well as one inside the card. Don’t forget to sign your card.

### July 14

Today is Bastille Day, a national holiday in France. It also happens to be National French Fry Day in the United States. Do you think that is a coincidence? Anyway, think about French Fries. They are the most popular side dish in the United States. The average American eats 29.5 pounds of French fries every year. Do you like French Fries or would you rather have another side dish with your hamburger or hot dog? Your job here is to write about French Fries—write anything you want to write. Tell me how you like to eat them, tell me your favorite restaurant for French Fries (I like McDonald fries with ketchup!) Maybe your grandma makes the best fries in the world and you want to write about that. Go for it!



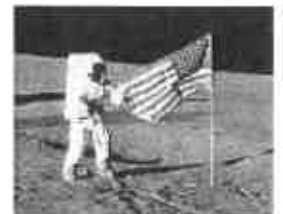
### July 15



July is “National Picnic Month.” If you could plan the ideal picnic for your family, what would it be like? Write a paragraph that includes who would be at your picnic, where it would be at, what you would eat and what activities you would do before/after you eat.

### July 16

On July 16, 1969, Apollo 11 lifted off for its voyage to the moon. Do you think we will ever live on the moon? Why or why not? Would you like to live there? What do you imagine life would be like on the moon? Write a paragraph answering all of these questions.



### July 17

On this day in 1955, Disneyland opened. What is your favorite amusement park ride and/or activity? Write a paragraph about it and illustrate your paragraph.





### **July 18**

July is “National Ice Cream Month.” First, describe your favorite flavor of ice cream. Next, create a new flavor of ice cream. What ingredients are in your favorite flavor? What name will you give your ice cream?

### **July 19**

On July 19, 1916, Eve Merriam was born. Merriam was a poet, playwright and teacher. She began writing poetry when she was seven. Think about your favorite form of poetry and write a poem. Add an illustration to your poem.

### **July 20**



Today is “Moon Day” to mark our first landing on the moon. There are many character traits an astronaut must possess. Write a paragraph describing what traits you think an astronaut should have. What do you think is the most important trait of these traits for an astronaut? Why did you select this trait?

### **July 21**

Today is “National Junk Food Day.” Think about your favorite type of junk food and how often you are allowed to eat this food. Do you think you think kids should be allowed to eat their favorite foods as much as they want? Write a paragraph taking a stand on this question, and give at least three reasons to support your opinion.

### **July 22**

Imagine you could become invisible whenever you wanted to. What are some of the things you would do if you were invisible? Write a story about what one day in your life would be like as an invisible person.

### **July 23**

Robert Quackenbush, the author and illustrator of nearly two hundred books for young readers, was born on this day. He once visited Leonard School to speak to the boys and girls in the 1990’s before you were even born! If you could be an author and/or illustrator what types of books would you like to write? In a paragraph, describe the types of books you would like to write and explain why.

### **July 24**

Today is “Amelia Earhart Day” in honor of her birthday in 1897. Earhart was the first person to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean. Using resources in the library or on the internet (with your parent’s permission) learn five facts about Amelia Earhart and summarize them in your own words in a paragraph.



### July 25

July is “National Recreation Month.” After you have looked up the word “recreation” in the dictionary, describe your favorite recreational activity. When and where do you like to do this activity. Why is it your favorite?

### July 26

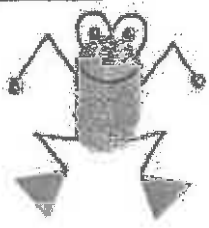
The Sesame Street character Bert was introduced for the first time in 1969. Bert lives with his best friend Ernie and his hobbies include cooking oatmeal, paperclip collecting and watching pigeons. If you could create a new character for Sesame Street, what type of character would it be? What would you name the character? What would your character’s hobbies be? Write a paragraph describing your new character and of course, draw a picture of him/her/it!



### July 27

Pretend that television, computers, the Internet, smartphones, ipads, and video games had never been invented. How would you spend your time on a rainy summer afternoon. Write a paragraph describing what you would do without any technology.

### July 28



On this day the first fingerprint was taken for identification. Ed Emberley is known for his fingerprint drawings. Using ink and your fingers (with parent’s permission of course!) create several characters. Give each of them names and think of what their personalities would be like. Write a short story (1-2 pages) about them.

### July 29

Write a poem about your favorite person place or animal. Illustrate it.

### July 30

Write a one page personal narrative describing your best day ever!

### July 31

On this day in 1790, the first U.S. Patent was issued to Samuel Hopkins. A patent “provides exclusive rights to make, use, import, sell and offer for sale the invention for up to 20 years.” Why do you think having patents is important? What might happen if someone didn’t have a patent for their invention?

### August 1

On this day in 1779, lawyer and poet Francis Scott Key was born. After witnessing an attack during the War of 1812, Key wrote a poem. This poem was later set to music and became known as, "The Star-Spangled Banner." Write your own poem honoring an event in American history.

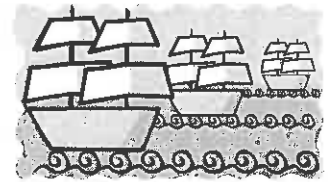


### August 2

Today is "National Ice Cream Sandwich Day." Write a paragraph about your favorite dessert and give at least three reasons why you like that particular dessert.

### August 3

On August 3, 1492, explorer Christopher Columbus set sail from Spain. Many people remember this with the rhyme, "In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue." While learning about new things, it sometimes helps to create rhymes to help remember specific facts.



Think about something you have trouble remembering. Write about what it is you have trouble remembering, and then write a rhyme that will help you remember it. Can you think of any other rhymes you could make for other things that are tough to remember?

### August 4

On this date in 1901, musician Louis Armstrong was born. Armstrong was an amazing jazz trumpeter. If you could play any instrument, which instrument would you want to play and why? If you already play an instrument, why did you select that instrument?



### August 5

Write a letter to one of your favorite relatives telling them how much you appreciate and love them, and how much fun you have with them. Remember to include a greeting and a closing.

### August 6

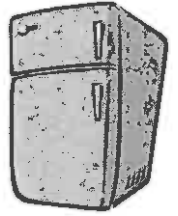
Today is Friendship Day. What makes a great friend? What characteristics does a friend have? What is a friend willing to do? Create a "want ad" that could go in a newspaper looking for a "Great Friend."

### August 7

Describe your favorite trip to the ocean. If you have not been to the ocean, explain why you would or would not like to go to the ocean.

### August 8

On this date in 1899, a man by the name of Albert T. Marshall received the patent for an "automatic refrigerating apparatus," better known as the refrigerator. In at least one paragraph, explain why you think the refrigerator was such an important invention. How would life be different without refrigerators.

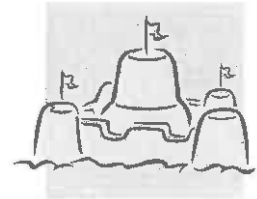


### August 9

On August 9, 1944, Smokey the Bear was "born." Smokey is responsible for sharing with people the danger of forest fires. Write a paragraph persuading campers to handle fire carefully. Design a sign you would post in the woods to remind people not to do things that could start a forest fire.

### August 10

Herbert Clark Hoover, the 31st President of the United States was born on August 10, 1874. Would you like to be President of the United States? Why or why not? What would be the most challenging thing about being the President of the United States?



### August 11

Today is "National Play in the Sand Day." Describe what your ideal sandcastle would look like. Don't forget to include a sketch.

### August 12

On this day in 1981, IBM announced a new personal computer (PC) for home use. How do you think computers have helped our lives? How do you think computers have possibly harmed our lives?



### August 13

August is "National Inventors Month." Think of a new invention you would like to create. Write a paragraph describing your invention. Explain why it is needed. Don't forget to write about how your invention will be used and who will use it. Draw a picture to go along with the description of your invention.

### August 14

Describe a time that you had to solve a problem with a friend or family member. What was the problem and how was it resolved? This should be a one page narrative.



### August 15

Today is "National Relaxation Day." Write a paragraph that describes one way you have relaxed and had fun during this summer vacation.

## August 16



August is National Eye Exam Month. We often take our eye sight for granted. Sit for two minutes with your eyes closed - maybe in your backyard, on your front porch, in your kitchen, outside, any location - and notice what it's like to not "see" anything. How was this similar or different to sitting in this same location with your eyes open? Write a paragraph about how you used your other senses when your eyes were closed. What did you hear, smell, touch?

## August 17

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you like to travel and why? What would you want to do there?



## August 18

On this date in 1944, author Paula Danziger was born. Danziger is probably best known for her Amber Brown series. If you were going to create your own series of books, what type of characters would you have? What genre of series would you write? Write at least one paragraph explaining your thoughts.



## August 19

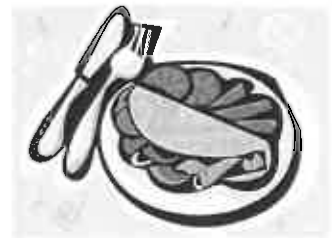
If you could play a professional sport what one would it be and why? Write a paragraph then design a trading card of you playing this sport.

## August 20

Benjamin Harrison, our 23rd President, was born on this date in 1833. Using available to you, write a list of every single United States President in chronological order and the years they were president. (Chronological means in order by date, from first to last.) Begin with George Washington and end with Barack Obama.

## August 21

Plan a scrumptious dinner for your family that includes all of your favorite dishes. What will you serve for an appetizer, main course, dessert and drink? Make a one page menu showing what you will be serving that night. Decorate it any way you like.



## August 22

Today is "Be an Angel Day." Describe a time that you were an angel to another person, or a time that someone was an angel to you. This should be a one page narrative.

### August 23

On this day in 1966, the first photograph of Earth from the moon was taken by the Lunar Orbiter. If you were seeing Earth from the moon for the first time, what would be your thoughts? Pretend you are a scientist at NASA and write a journal entry describing what you see and your thoughts about it. This should be 5-6 sentences.



### August 24

On this day in 1932, Amelia Earhart flew across the United States. Write a paragraph about the type of character traits you feel Amelia needed to have to reach this goal of hers? Write a second paragraph telling about a goal that you have and what you will need to do to reach your goal.

### August 25

Today is “National Banana Split Day.” Write directions for how to make a delicious banana split. Make sure you include a list of ingredients needed and step by step directions on how to make it.



### August 26

On this day in 1916, the National Park Service was established. Use resources available to you (books, Internet) learn about a National Park that is located in our state, or one that you have visited before. Write a paragraph about that part that includes at least five facts about it.

### August 27

Mother Teresa was born on this day in 1910. Mother Teresa dedicated her life to helping others. Write a list of ten things you can do to help others today or this week. After that, write a paragraph describing what you did and how it helped someone else.

### August 28

On this day in 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s dream was for all people, no matter what their skin color, to be treated equal. What is your dream? Write a speech that describes your dream.



### August 29

On this day in 1934, the first Scout camp opened. Have you ever been to a camp? If so, describe your experience. If not, describe what camp would you like to attend and what activities you could do there. Would you like to go to a day camp or a sleepover camp? If you want to see some camps in our state, you can look at this website [kidscamps.com](http://kidscamps.com) and search for camps near here.



### August 30

On August 30, 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast of the United States. This was a Category 4 hurricane. What types of natural disasters affect our region? Ask your family what your family plan is in case of a tornado or fire.

or



Today is also “National Toasted Marshmallow Day.” Write a poem about this tasty treat.

### August 31

On this day in 1870, a famous educator by the name of Maria Montessori was born. Write a letter to next year’s teacher introducing yourself, then describing what you like about school, what you are good at and what you are really looking forward to learning this school year.