Hamburger Paragraph Planner



A good paragraph is built like a hamburger. Plan each layer, then write the paragraph on another sheet.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

My topic:

Top bun

Top bun Topic sentence: tell what the paragraph is about.

Detail 1

Detail 1 A fact, a reason or an example.

Detail 2

Detail 2 Another one.

Detail 3

Detail 3 One more.

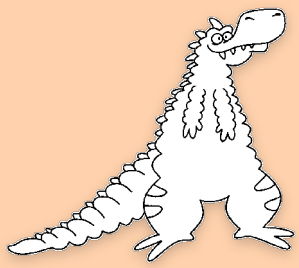
Bottom bun

Bottom bun Closing sentence: wrap it up.

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Topic Sentence Match

A topic sentence tells what a paragraph is about. Read each set of details. Write the letter of the topic sentence that fits.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Topic sentences

- A. Fall is a colorful season.
- B. The school library is a great place.
- C. Cats love to sleep.
- D. Putting on shoes takes three steps.

1. They can sleep up to 20 hours a day. They nap in sunny spots. They curl up on soft blankets. ☐

2. First, put on your socks. Next, slide your feet into your shoes. Last, tie the laces. ☐

3. Leaves turn red, orange and yellow. The air gets cool. Kids jump in big leaf piles. ☐

4. You can read in the cozy corner. You can borrow books to take home. The librarian helps you find new stories. ☐

Write a topic sentence for these details: We play tag. We swing on the swings. We slide down the big slide.

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PARAGRAPH WRITING AND EDITING · GRADES 3–5 · 3 OF 5

Which Sentence Does Not Belong?

Every sentence in a paragraph should be about the topic. Cross out the sentence that does not belong.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Penguins are birds that cannot fly. They use their wings to swim fast. My cousin has a red bike. Many penguins live where it is very cold.

2. Our class planted a garden. We dug holes for the seeds. Pizza is my favorite food. Soon, tiny green sprouts came up.

3. The moon goes around Earth. It takes about a month to go all the way around. Basketball is a fun sport. At night, the moon reflects light from the sun.

4. Recycling helps our planet. We can recycle paper, cans and bottles. My sister has long hair. Recycling means less trash in landfills.

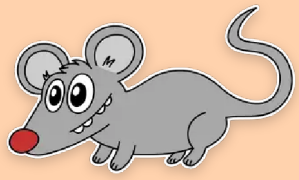
Pick one paragraph. Write a new sentence that does belong.

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PARAGRAPH WRITING AND EDITING · GRADES 3–5 · 4 OF 5

Edit This Paragraph with CUPS

This paragraph has 12 mistakes. Check Capitals, Usage, Punctuation and Spelling. Fix each one with an editing mark.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

CUPS

- C Capitals
- U Usage (does it sound right?)
- P Punctuation
- S Spelling

Editing marks

≡	Make a capital letter	/	Make a small letter
⊙	Add a period	∧	Add a word or a mark
—	Take it out (cross it out)	sp	Fix the spelling

last saturday my family went to the beach. We packed a big lunch and too towels. My little brother builded a sand castle. it was the bigest castle on the beach! Then a wave came and nocked it down. He was sad but we helped him make a new one. When the sun went down, we was tired and happy. i cant wait to go back

Copy the paragraph with every mistake fixed.

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PARAGRAPH WRITING AND EDITING · GRADES 4–5 · 5 OF 5

Revise a Paragraph with ARMS

This paragraph is a little boring. Make it stronger with ARMS: Add, Remove, Move and Substitute.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

I went to the zoo. It was fun. I saw animals. The animals were nice. I went home. Then I ate a snack at the zoo.

A Add details: which animals? what did they do?

R Remove a sentence or words you do not need

M Move a sentence that is in the wrong order

S Substitute swap a boring word (fun, nice) for a strong one

Write your new paragraph.

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Answer key: Paragraph writing and editing

Topic Sentence Match

1. **C**
2. **D**
3. **A**
4. **B**

Which Sentence Does Not Belong?

1. **My cousin has a red bike.**
2. **Pizza is my favorite food.**
3. **Basketball is a fun sport.**
4. **My sister has long hair.**

Edit This Paragraph with CUPS

Last Saturday my family went to the beach. We packed a big lunch and two towels. My little brother built a sand castle. It was the biggest castle on the beach! Then a wave came and knocked it down. He was sad, but we helped him make a new one. When the sun went down, we were tired and happy. I can't wait to go back.

last → Last saturday → Saturday too → two

builded → built it → It bigest → biggest

nocked → knocked sad but → sad, but

we was → we were i → I cant → can't

back → back. (add a period)

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