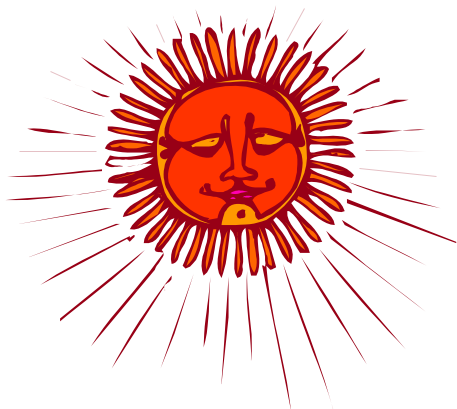


## SESSION 17 A WRITING REVIEW: ARE YOU READY?



LA.A.2.4.1	DETERMINES THE MAIN IDEA AND IDENTIFIES RELEVANT DETAILS, METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN A VARIETY OF TYPES OF WRITTEN MATERIAL.
LA.B.2.4.2	ORGANIZES INFORMATION USING APPROPRIATE SYSTEMS.
LA.B.2.4.3	WRITES FLUENTLY FOR A VARIETY OF OCCASIONS, AUDIENCES AND PURPOSES, MAKING APPROPRIATE CHOICES REGARDING STYLE, TONE, LEVEL OF DETAIL AND ORGANIZATION.

### Writing Review

In session 18 you will be writing either an expository or a persuasive essay as your final exam for this course. The following assignments will help you review some main points in writing to help you prepare for this exam.

#### **Assignment 1**

Complete the assignment on “Topic Sentences” page 3. Write answers on your own paper.

#### **Assignment 2**

Complete the assignment on “Unity” page 4. On your own paper, write the topic sentence for each activity and then write the letter(s) of the sentences that support it.

#### **Assignment 3**

Complete the assignment on “Paragraph Unity” page 5. On your own paper, write the topic sentence for each activity and then write the letter(s) of the sentences that support it.

#### **Assignment 4**

Complete the assignment on “Coherence” page 6. On your own paper, write the letters that represent each sentence in the order in which they should be arranged.

#### **Assignment 5**

Complete the assignment on “Coherence” page 7. On your own paper, write the letters that represent each sentence in the order in which they should be arranged.

#### **Assignment 6**

Complete the assignment on “Expressing Parallel Ideas” pages 8-10. Write answers on your own paper.

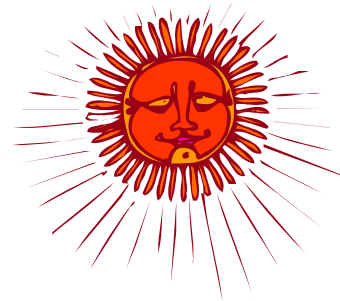
**Assignment 7**

Complete the assignment on “Revising a Paragraph by Combining Sentences” page 11. Write the revised paragraph on your own paper as the exercise directs.

**Assignment 8**

Complete the assignment on “Concluding, or Clincher, Sentences” page 12. Write answers on your own paper.

If you have any questions about these review assignments or about the writing process for expository or persuasive essays, ask your instructor **before** moving on to session 18.



**Turn in all completed work and packet for session 17 to the instructor.**





Writing Paragraphs

**Paragraph Unity**

**EXERCISE** Each group contains a topic sentence followed by several other sentences. On the lines provided, write **S** next to sentences that support the topic sentence. Write **N** next to sentences that do *not* support it.

1. *Topic sentence:* Fairy tales are more than simple stories; they reveal to children important values of the culture.
  - a. Many libraries have storytelling hours for children. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The principles of good and evil are represented in these stories in forms that children can understand. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Nothing is more enjoyable than a good mystery. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Many stories stress the power of love over hate or the triumph of good over evil. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. The princes and princesses who appear in these tales are usually one dimensional characters. \_\_\_\_\_
  
1. *Topic sentence:* House plants are both decorative and functional.
  - a. As well as adding beauty to our surroundings, green plants release vital oxygen into the atmosphere. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Trees offer needed shade protection for some types of shrubbery. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Many indoor plants bloom all year. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. With minimal effort and a flair for design, people can use plants to transform rather drab rooms into light and airy places. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Flower-arranging is an art form in Japan and other countries. \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. *Topic sentences:* Shopping malls have been built all over suburban America in the last two decades.
  - a. Escalators in malls are sometimes stalled and in need of repair. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. When the flight of American families to the suburbs began, stores had to follow their customers in order to stay in business. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Many customers appreciate the convenience of so-called “one-stop shopping” available to them in malls. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. The bigger department stores are able to absorb the added expense of security systems to prevent shoplifting. \_\_\_\_\_

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## Writing Paragraphs

### Coherence

The sentences in a paragraph should flow smoothly and logically to give the paragraph **coherence**. One way to achieve coherence is to put ideas in logical order.

**EXERCISE** The order of the sentences in each group is not logical. In the space provided, write the sentence letters in the order in which they should be arranged to form a coherent paragraph.

1. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Next, make sure there is fresh water nearby before pitching the tent.
  - b. Finally, collect rocks to enclose the fire and sticks to start the fire for supper.
  - c. The construction of a comfortable campsite involves some important steps.
  - d. First, select a level place that is relatively free of underbrush so a fire can be safely started.
  
2. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The procession began with the newly elected king and queen of the prom
  - b. The class jester came last, acting like a clown.
  - c. The entire senior class paraded after the court.
  - d. The queen's court and king's knights followed the royal couple.
  
3. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The tragedies, however, are somewhat pessimistic concerning the possibility of human growth.
  - b. The comedies are usually considered first because his treatment of Romance and young love is so optimistic.
  - c. Shakespeare's vision of human existence is apparent in his works.
  - d. One must, therefore, study both his tragedies and his comedies in order to appreciate his vision.
  
4. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. By the end of the overtime, the Tigers clearly emerged as the superior team, winning the game by four points.
  - b. One of the most exciting games of the season took place last night.
  - c. When the halftime buzzer sounded, the Tigers led the Blue Jays by ten points.
  - d. But the Blue Jays, full of fire, returned from the locker room and quickly closed the gap.
  - e. During the first half, the Tigers controlled the ball and the boards.
  - f. No one expected the game to end in a tie, so the fans went wild when the final buzzer sounded.

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## Writing Paragraphs

### Coherence

**EXERCISE** The order of the sentences in each group is not logical. In the space provided, write the sentence letters in the order in which they should be arranged to form a coherent paragraph.

1. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Believe it or not, mirrors have played an important part in the civilization of the world.
  - b. Obviously, then, a world without mirrors would be a different world indeed.
  - c. When humans became aware of themselves, reflected first in placid water, later perhaps in polished metal, strong needs began to surface.
  - d. Additionally, mirrors certainly encouraged the use of cosmetics.
  - e. Rather than seeing themselves only in others' eyes, they could now make personal judgments about their own appearances.
  
2. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. When "Doc" Councilman finally stumbled ashore at Calais, France, his time was thirteen hours, seven minutes, and he had averaged sixty-four strokes per minute.
  - b. Jim "Doc" Councilman at fifty-eight was the oldest man to swim the English Channel.
  - c. He then began a rigorous conditioning and training program
  - d. Before definitely deciding to attempt to swim the channel, he recognized that he would need a training program like those he had devised for his students.
  - e. At the time he accomplished this feat, he was on leave from his position as swimming coach at the University of Indiana where he had, in fact, coached Olympic champion Mark Spitz.
  
3. Order of sentences should be: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. It is also pushing the slide rules into disuse and is now so common one can hardly imagine a world without it.
  - b. For example, thanks to the microchip we now have the hand-held calculator.
  - c. The miniaturization of electronic components has brought us swiftly into a new age.
  - d. This small but mighty instrument can outperform the early, room-sized computers.

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### Writing Effective Sentences

#### Expressing Parallel Ideas

Ideas of equal importance are *parallel ideas*. When you join, compare, or contrast these ideas in a sentence, express them in the same (or parallel) grammatical form. For example:

POOR For exercise, I like **jogging** and **to swim**. [a gerund and an infinitive]

BETTER For exercise, I like **jogging** and **swimming**.

For exercise, I like **to jog** and **to swim**.

[two gerunds or two infinitives]

POOR Playing a guitar is easier **in a dance band** than **solo concerts**. [a prepositional phrase contrasted with a noun + modifier]

BETTER Playing a guitar is easier **in a dance band** than **in solo concerts**. [two prepositional phrases]

POOR The test was neither **too easy** nor **did it seem tricky**. [an adjective + adverb joined with a clause]

BETTER The test was neither **too easy** nor **very tricky**. [two predicate adjectives = their modifying adverbs]

As you revise and proofread a paper, check sentences where you have used connecting words such as *more, less, as, and than*. Also check the form of ideas you have connected with one of these conjunctions: *and, but, or nor, both/and, either/or, neither/nor, and not only/but also*.

**EXERCISE** Decide which answer will complete each sentence by putting ideas in parallel form. Write the letter of your choice in the blank.

1. Evaluate the television programs, you watch by considering their purpose, presentation, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) whether there is an educational value
  - (b) their having an educational value
  - (c) educational value
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ and mowing the lawn are my least favorite chores.
  - (a) The dishes
  - (b) Washing the dishes
  - (c) To wash the dishes

3. Singing in an opera requires more training than \_\_\_\_.
- (a) in a school choir
  - (b) singing in a school choir
  - (c) a school choir
4. Being interested in the subject and \_\_\_\_\_ studied hard, he should do very well on the test.
- (a) having
  - (b) because he has
  - (c) since he has
5. Either \_\_\_\_\_ or after work, please stop by the store.
- (a) when you go to dance class
  - (b) before going to dance class
  - (c) on your way to dance class
6. \_\_\_\_\_ through the state park would be more fun than just driving through it.
- (a) A hike
  - (b) Hiking
  - (c) To go on a hike
7. The speaker's voice was not only slow and soft but also \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) it had a monotonous tone
  - (b) was monotonous in tone
  - (c) monotonous in tone
8. To hike cross-country, travel by camper, or \_\_\_\_\_ are my mother's preferred choices for a vacation.
- (a) to go deep-sea fishing
  - (b) deep-sea fishing
  - (c) going deep-sea fishing
9. I like reading a good book as much as \_\_\_\_.
- (a) to watch television
  - (b) watching television
  - (c) I like to watch television
10. Quickly but \_\_\_\_\_, the senator answered the question.
- (a) thoroughly
  - (b) with thoroughness
  - (c) being thorough

11. \_\_\_\_\_cross-country on a motorcycle would be exciting for many people.
- (a) To go riding
  - (b) Riding
  - (c) A ride
12. The townspeople considered her a wealthy woman and \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) character of legendary dimensions.
  - (b) a legend in her own time.
  - (c) legendary character.
13. Flying an airplane requires more skill than \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) a car.
  - (b) driving a car.
  - (c) to drive a car.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ And seeing a great film are my favorite pastimes.
- (a) An interesting book
  - (b) To read an interesting book
  - (c) Reading an interesting book
15. She convinced her brothers to mortgage their home and \_\_\_ in more land.
- (a) to invest
  - (b) make an investment
  - (c) try investing



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### Writing Paragraphs

#### **Concluding, or Clincher, Sentences**

At the end of a paragraph, a writer will sometimes restate or summarize the topic sentence. A concluding sentence of this kind is called a **clincher sentence** because it clinches the point made in the paragraph.

**EXERCISE** If a sentence is a strong clincher sentence, write **S**; if a weak clincher, write **W** on the line provided.

1. In conclusion, many rock bands of the Sixties have split up, and some of their former members are now doing well as solo performers. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Feed the goldfish, too, please. \_\_\_\_\_
3. In summary, it is important to provide teen-agers with a variety of educational experiences in order to tap their full potential. \_\_\_\_\_
4. No one enjoys the movies more than I. \_\_\_\_\_
5. In the last analysis, all the research reinforced the idea that there is no easy solution to the energy crisis. \_\_\_\_\_
6. The playground was deserted at suppertime. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Fast food restaurants, in summary, do serve a purpose in a fast-paced society like ours. \_\_\_\_\_
8. A visit to the dentist used to be a terrifying experience. \_\_\_\_\_
9. The Humane Society, then, is one organization working to meet the needs of the animal population in the city. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Little League baseball is one of several important parts of the town's summer recreation program. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The bleachers were varnished just before the season started. \_\_\_\_\_
12. The home economics class learned how to bake read last week. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Volunteer fire departments, then, are a vital link in the chain. \_\_\_\_\_
14. No one wanted to answer the telephone. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Carnivals were my favorite kind of summertime entertainment. \_\_\_\_\_
16. By the end of dinner, everyone in the neighborhood had pledged time, money, or equipment for the playground. \_\_\_\_\_