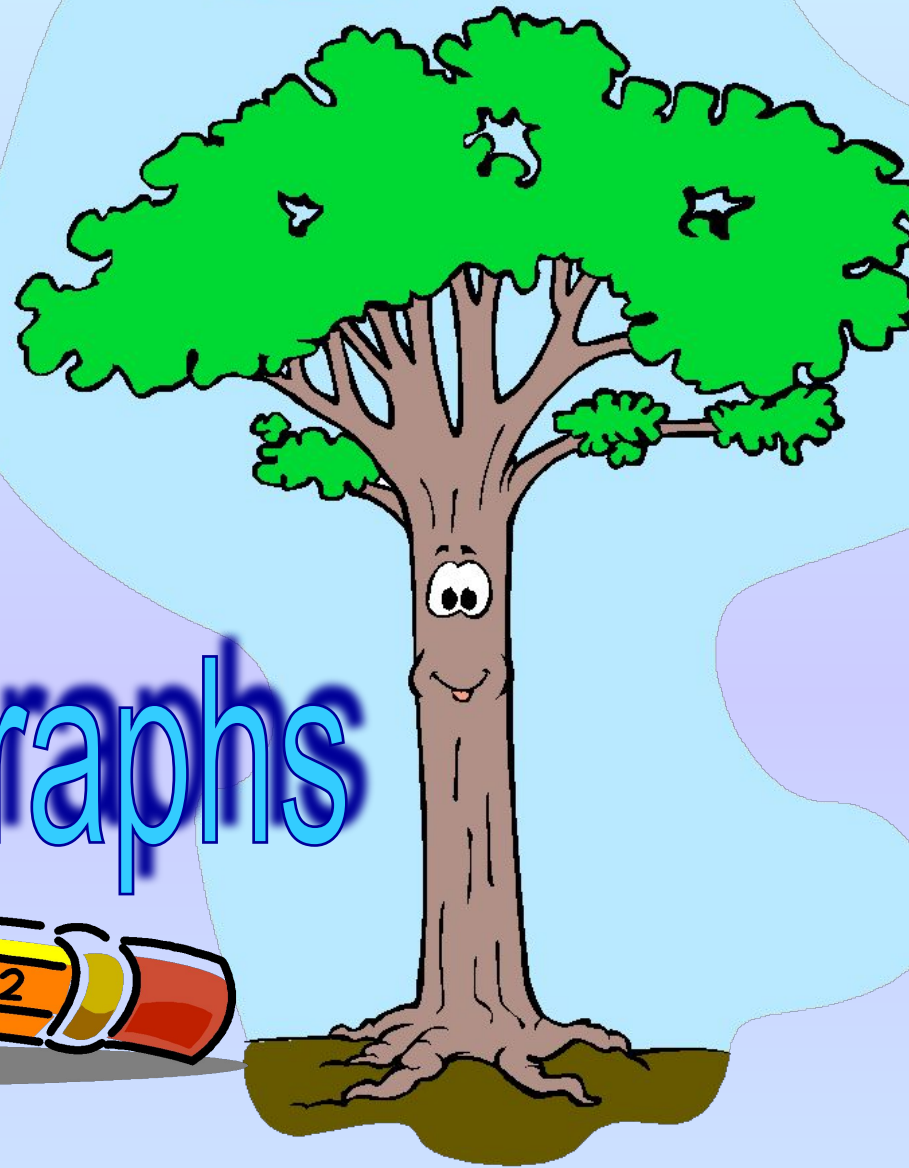


Writing Paragraphs



What is a Paragraph?

- A paragraph is a group of sentences that tells about one subject or area.
- Each sentence in a paragraph must give information about the topic



Reasons to Write a Paragraph

- 1. Describe something
- 2. Tell a story
- 3. Explain something
- 4. To Persuade



Parts of a Paragraph

- **Topic Sentence:** States the main idea of the paragraph. It tells the reader what the paragraph will be about. A good topic sentence does two things: 1. It names a subject 2.) It give the focus or main point

Ex: **Subject:** Egypt **Main Focus:** Religion

Ex: **Subject:** Egyptian Religion **Main Focus:** Gods

- **Supporting Details:** Sentences that are connected to the main idea. They include information or details the reader needs in order to understand the topic. Sentences should be ordered in the best possible order. 3 main ways to do this is either by time, location or importance.

- **Closing Statement:** Sums up the paragraph's message. It reminds the readers of the topic.

Topic Sentence

D
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L
S

The ancient Egyptians believed in many different gods and goddesses and each one had their own role to play in maintaining peace and harmony across the land. Some gods and goddesses took part in creation. Other gods and goddesses brought the flood every year. Some offered protection, and some took care of people after they died. Egyptians had local gods who represented towns, and minor gods who represented plants or animals. **The ancient Egyptians believed that it was important to recognize and worship these gods and goddesses so that life continued smoothly.**

Closing Statement



Think of a good topic sentence for this set of details.

- Penguin Moms lay the eggs and afterwards leave to get food for 2months.
- Penguin dads incubate the egg until it hatches.
- They take turns caring for their chick and feeding in the sea.
- Once the egg hatches, The young stay sheltered in the pouch of the mother while the father brings food.



Student Examples of Topic Sentences

- Mother and father penguins both take care of their young.
- Mother and father penguins play a very important role in raising their young.
- Penguin mom and dads are very good parents.
- Penguin parents are very protective of their young and I will show you how.

Paragraph Details

- Topic Sentence:

Arizona has been thinking about extending the school year from May to June, but I think that they should not extend the school year.

What are some details you would expect to see in this paragraph.



Examples

- Some details in this paragraph might be about...
 - Why Arizona is extending the school year
 - When they plan to extend the school year
 - Reasons why it is a bad idea

Think of a Closing Statement for this paragraph



Egypt is most famous for their pyramids. There are over 100 pyramids in Egypt but that information is unknown to many people. The most popular and well known pyramids are the Pyramids of Giza. They are located in Cairo. Pyramids were tombs for pharaohs. To complete the pyramids, workers hauled and lifted millions of limestone blocks that weighed an average of 2 and 1/2 tons each. They didn't have iron tools or wheeled vehicles. The workers carried each stone by hand, pulled them on sleds, and lifted them up mud ramps to be placed on the slowly rising structure.

Examples of Closing Statements

- Now we are glad that the Egyptians worked so hard so that we can admire the beauty.
- The pyramids have been standing in Egypt for a long time, and they still stand for people to see.
- You can see why the Egyptian would be proud of all this hard work.
- We hope that someday scientist will be bale to figure out how Egyptians built these ancient structures.

Transitions

- Help your paragraphs flow together. They link ideas so that they relate to one another

in the same way

similarly

likewise

while

on the other hand

although

however

as a result

therefore

finally

in conclusion

in summary

lastly

in addition