

Application and Reasoning

Step 1: Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 4: Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme

English Year 4: Draft and write by organising paragraphs around a theme

English Year 4: Draft and write by in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings]

Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Reasoning)

Developing Explain whether a statement is correct. Text separated into paragraphs and reasoning given.

Expected Explain whether a statement is correct. Text separated into paragraphs.

Greater Depth Explain whether a statement is correct. Text not separated into paragraphs.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Application)

Developing Write a paragraph. Sentence opener provided.

Expected Write a paragraph. Word bank provided.

Greater Depth Write a paragraph. No word bank or sentence stem provided.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Reasoning)

Developing Explain the reason for starting a new paragraph as part of a multiple-choice question.

Expected Explain the reason for starting a new paragraph. Text separated into paragraphs.

Greater Depth Explain how many paragraphs a text can be separated in to. Text not separated into paragraphs.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

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Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Lucy picked herself up off the floor slowly. Where was she? The last thing she remembered was opening the gate to the garden. This was very confusing. She definitely wasn't in the garden any longer. She knew that much for sure.

Wherever she was, it looked like nobody had been here for years. Thick and sticky cobwebs were hanging from the trees. Rotten branches crunched under Lucy's feet as she began to walk forward. She thought she could see a wall to her left but it was so covered with moss and dirt that it was hard to tell what it was.

Looking up to her right, she thought she saw something. Was that a face? She stared for a minute. She knew she was being silly now. She decided to ignore the strange face and headed towards the wall instead.

1a. The sentence 'She thought she...' should be the start of a new paragraph because it is describing a different part of the setting.

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



R

Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Jake flew on into the darkness, twisting and turning. He had been travelling for hours and he was starting to get hungry. He knew he would have to wait a little longer. It wasn't safe to land yet.

Jake had always been a normal boy. He went to school, he played football on a Sunday and he argued with his little sister. However, this journey wasn't normal at all. Jake had had the strangest weekend and he felt like he was having a very odd dream.

It had all started after school on Friday. On a normal day, he would arrive home to his mum cooking dinner in the kitchen. On this day, however, he found that the door was locked. Luckily, he had his key with him and unlocked it himself. As soon as he walked through the door he knew something was wrong.

1b. The sentence 'However, this journey...' should be the start of a new paragraph because it is introducing a different theme.

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



R

2a. Write the first paragraph in the story using the sentence opener below.

Lucy was skipping home...



A

2b. Write the next paragraph in the story using the sentence opener below.

There was broken glass....



A

3a. Why does the sentence "Looking up..." start a new paragraph?

- A. It is an introduction to the story.
- B. It describes the start of some action.

Explain how you know.



R

3b. Why does the sentence "Jake had always..." start a new paragraph?

- A. It is about a new theme.
- B. It is describing the setting.

Explain how you know.



R

Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Lucy picked herself up off the floor slowly. Where was she? In her confused state, the last thing she remembered was opening the gate to the garden. This place definitely wasn't the garden. She knew that much for sure.

Wherever she was, it looked like nobody had been here for years. Cobwebs hung thick and sticky from the trees above. Rotten, twisted branches crunched under Lucy's feet as she began to move forward. She thought she could make out a wall to her left but it was so covered with moss and dirt that it was hard to tell.

As she glanced to her right, a strange branch caught her eye. Was that a face? She scrunched up her eyes to try to see more clearly. She knew was being silly now. Of course it wasn't a face! She decided to investigate the wall, but all the time she couldn't help but glance back to that spot again.

4a. The sentence 'Rotten, twisted branches...' should be the start of a new paragraph.

Do you agree? Explain your answer.



R

Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Twisting and turning, Jake flew on into the darkness. He had been travelling for hours and his stomach was starting to rumble. He knew he would have to wait a little longer. It wasn't safe to land yet.

Jake was a completely normal boy. He went to school, played football at the weekend and he argued with his little sister a lot. However, this journey wasn't normal at all. Jake had had the strangest weekend and he felt like he was having a very odd dream.

The events had all started when he got home from school on Friday afternoon. On a normal day, he would arrive home to his mum cooking dinner in the kitchen. On this day, however, he found that the door was locked. Luckily he had his key and unlocked it himself. As soon as he stepped through the door, he knew something was wrong. He noticed broken glass scattered under his feet and began to panic.

4b. The sentence 'On a normal day...' should be the start of a new paragraph.

Do you agree? Explain your answer.



R

5a. Write the first paragraph in the story. Use the word bank to help you.

school home garden
strange gate jumped



A

5b. Write the next paragraph in the story. Use the word bank to help you.

alone messy changed
strange empty missing



A

6a. Why does the sentence "Wherever she was..." start a new paragraph?

Explain how you know.



R

6b. Why does the sentence "The events had all..." start a new paragraph?

Explain how you know.



R

Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Slowly, Lucy picked herself up and brushed the dirt from her knees. Where was she? The last thing she remembered was pushing open the garden gate. This place definitely wasn't the garden. She knew that much for sure. Wherever she was, it had the look of somewhere where that nobody had been for years. Silky cobwebs hung thick and sticky from the trees above, obscuring her view. She thought she could just about make out a wall to her left but it was so smothered in moss and dirt that it was difficult to tell what it really was. Glancing to her right, a peculiar branch caught her eye. Was that a face? She squinted to see the shape more clearly, but nothing was there. She was being silly now. Of course it wasn't a face! She decided to investigate the wall but it was difficult to forget what she thought she had seen staring back at her.

Twisting and turning, Jake flew on into the darkness beyond. He had been travelling for hours now and his stomach was growling loudly. He knew he would have to wait a little longer. It wasn't safe to land and run the risk of being caught just yet. Jake appeared to be an ordinary boy. This journey, however, was not normal at all. This strange and exciting turn of events definitely made him extraordinary. What began as a completely normal day had changed rapidly from the moment he had arrived home from school. Usually his mum would be busy making dinner, but on this day he found the house to be locked. Luckily, Jake had remembered his key and let himself in through the front door. Immediately, he knew that something was very, very wrong, especially as glass from the porch crunched under his feet.

7a. The sentence 'The last thing...' should be the start of a new paragraph.

7b. The sentence 'Jake appeared...' should be the start of a new paragraph.

Do you agree? Explain how you know.

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



R



R

8a. Write the first paragraph in the story.

8b. Write the next paragraph in the story.



A



A

9a. This text could be split into four paragraphs.

9b. This text could be split into four paragraphs.

Do you agree? Explain your answer.

Do you agree? Explain your answer.



R



R

Application and Reasoning Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Developing

1a. The statement is incorrect because it is still discussing the same theme as the rest of the paragraph and links with the previous sentence describing Lucy's surroundings.

2a. Various possible answers. Answers should use the sentence opener and link with the following paragraphs.

3a. B; the action is starting as Lucy is now exploring her, somewhat spooky, surroundings.

Expected

4a. The statement is incorrect because the sentence is still describing the setting, so it belongs in the same paragraph.

5a. Various possible answers. Answers should link with the following paragraphs.

6a. It is a new paragraph because it is following on from the introduction and is describing the setting in more detail.

Greater Depth

7a. The statement is incorrect because the sentence links with the previous one where Lucy is questioning her location.

8a. Various possible answers. Answers should link with the following paragraphs.

9a. Various possible answers. Children should use evidence from the text to explain their answers.

Application and Reasoning Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

Developing

1b. The statement is incorrect because it is explaining why Jake is not normal now which links to the previous sentences.

2b. Various possible answers. Answers should use the sentence opener and follow on from the previous paragraphs.

3b. A; it is formally introducing the character of the story.

Expected

4b. The statement is incorrect because the sentence is explaining why this day is different from a normal day so is leading on from the previous sentence.

5b. Various possible answers. Answers should follow on from the previous paragraphs.

6b. It is a new paragraph because it is introducing a new theme and describing how the events described in the previous paragraphs began.

Greater Depth

7b. The statement is correct because the sentence is introducing the character which is the theme of the next paragraph.

8b. Various possible answers. Answers should follow on from the previous paragraphs.

9b. Various possible answers. Children should use evidence from the text to explain their answers.