

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

Due date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Write Away 3

**Topic:**                   **WRITE A PARAGRAPH**

**Background:**       There are many different kinds of paragraphs, each of which serves a different purpose. Descriptive, narrative, and explanatory paragraphs are some examples.

**Descriptive:** The hot sun rose slowly over the golden prairie, lighting the wheat as it swayed slowly in an early summer breeze. The air was full with the scent of the earth, wet from the night's heavy rain and sweet with the promise of summer's harvest. From somewhere a birdcall fluted across the field, like a secret voice bidding its followers to wake and listen. The rosy sky gave way to the porcelain blue of another summer morning on the prairie.

*Question: How many senses does the author appeal to? What writing tools does the author use in this descriptive paragraph?*

**Narrative:** I stood on the doorstep and looked out at the morning, wondering if this day would be any different from the last. No time to waste, I thought. My shoes were soon on and I was trudging down the lane towards the bus stop, weary in my heart and careful not to let my thoughts circle too deeply into the trouble awaiting me at school. Would I be able to avoid Clement for the whole day, or would he find me, as he had yesterday, and make me sorry that I had ever crossed his path? There must be a way to resolve this, I thought. There must be a way to escape.

*Question: What is narrative? How does this paragraph display narrative qualities?*

**Explanatory:** The best way to make tea involves several careful steps. First, you boil the water until it is actually "rolling", that is, moving in the kettle. Steam will be rising steadily as well. Then you pour a small amount of water into the teapot, swish it around, and pour it out. Next, place a tea bag into the pot and pour the just-boiled water over it, making sure that some of the water is poured directly on the tea bag. Fill the pot full for best results, then let the pot sit (sometimes called "steeping") for up to five minutes. The last step is to remove the tea bag, and pour out the tea. Always serve tea with a biscuit or cookie.

*Question: How does the author make this explanation easy to follow?*

Paragraphs can stand alone, or they can be part of a much larger piece of writing, such as a story or essay. In any case, paragraphs must be coherent and organized, with effective opening and closing sentences (WriteAway #2), and a body containing sentences that help achieve the paragraph's purpose.

### **Activities:**

#### **Activity #1**

Write a descriptive paragraph. You *may choose a topic of your own*, or select one from the list below:

- a room
- a concert
- a person
- an event, such as a wedding or birthday party

#### **Activity #2**

Write a narrative OR explanatory paragraph (choose one).

In total, you will have written **two paragraphs**.

#### **Things to keep in mind while writing!**

Sentence structure;  
Use of adjectives, adverbs, descriptive phrases;  
Opening and closing sentences;  
Spelling and grammar;  
Making your writing as interesting as possible.