The Boost! Skills Series is the definitive and comprehensive four-level series of skills books for junior English learners. The series has been developed around age-appropriate, cross-curricular topics that develop students’ critical thinking and examination techniques. It follows an integrated skills approach with each of the skills brought together at the end of each unit.

The twelve core units in Boost! Writing 2 follow a clear and transparent structure to make teaching and learning easy and fun. The writing skills build and progress across the four levels of Boost! Writing and are correlated to the next generation of tests of English.

You will find the following in Boost! Writing 2:

- Age-appropriate and cross-curricular topics
- Models of good writing as well as examples of bad writing
- Writing practice that builds from sentence and paragraph levels to full-length passages
- Activities that provide an opportunity to create a wide variety of text types (essays, letters, emails, etc.)
Unit Topic
Each unit has an age-appropriate and cross-curricular topic.
Students will
- find the topic directly relates to their own lives and study.
- be engaged and motivated to learn.

Writing Skill
A very simple introduction of the targeted unit skill is provided.
Students will
- be introduced to the writing skill in a clear and understandable way.

My Weekend Unit 1

Before You Write
Samples of good and bad writing are presented with a noticing task.
Students will
- learn to distinguish between good and bad writing.
- discover the writing skill for themselves without the need for long explanations.

Audio CD
The CD at the back of the Student Book provides audio support for all reading passages plus the audio for the Integration listening tasks.
**Writing Practice**
Practice based around a writing model is followed by more personalized writing practice.

**Students will**
- develop the skills needed for accurate and effective writing through model-based practice.
- be able to follow guidance to write their own passages.

**Integration**
The writing skill is combined with listening, reading or speaking tasks.

**Students will**
- produce writing passages based on reading and speaking/listening inputs.
- develop language skills needed for the next generation of integrated tests of English.

**Review**
After every two core units there is a review which consolidates the writing skills already studied.

**Students will**
- be able to see their progress in using writing skills.
- build on previously taught skills to produce accurate writing.
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SUBJECT: Culture and People
WRITING SKILL: Using pronouns
WRITING TASK: Write sentences using pronouns.

Using pronouns

When you write the same word many times in a passage, it is boring to read. To avoid repeating the same word, you can use a pronoun instead. A pronoun is a word that is used in place of one or more nouns. Personal pronouns [he/him, she/her, I/me, you/you, they/them, we/us, it/it] show who is doing what [to who]. Possessive pronouns [his/hers, my/ theirs, your/your, their/our, its/its] show who something belongs to.

When you use pronouns, remember the following.

- Use the name of the person or thing the first time you mention it. After this, you can use a pronoun [Anthony is very tall. He is also smart. not He is very tall. He is very smart.].
- If you are talking about several people or things, do not use a pronoun if the reader will not understand who or what it refers to [Mary and Kim are both wearing dresses. Kim’s dress is red. not Mary and Kim are both wearing dresses. Her dress is red.].

You may find that your students use a personal pronoun when they should use a possessive pronoun [His coat is brown instead of His coat is brown]. Getting them to make statements about the objects in each other’s bags may help reinforce the correct usage.

Answers for Unit 1 Worksheet (p. 13)

A 1. We watch TV in our house.
   2. I am playing my new guitar.
   3. He throws the ball to you.
   4. She gives her sister a book.
   [Suggested answers; students’ answers can vary]

B [Students’ answers can vary]
A What did you do last weekend? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

B Read the emails.

From: Mandy <mandy@adventurez.kids>
To: Julie <julie@adventurez.kids>

Hi, Julie!

I had an interesting weekend. My name is Lucy. We visited her house.

On Saturday, we played games. Also, her brother was there too.

In the afternoon, we played with her friend Lucy. Her friend doesn't like video games, but she is very noisy.

Mandy

Hello, Mandy!

I'm happy to hear you had an interesting weekend. But I'm so confused! Whose house did you go to—your house or her house? Who is pretty and kind? Whose brother was there? Who is younger? Is the brother noisy, or are the video games noisy? What doesn't your friend like?

I'm sorry—I love getting email from you, but this is really confusing.

Julie

C Answer the question and follow the instruction.

1 Why is Mandy's email confusing? Mandy didn't use any pronouns.

2 Add words to Mandy's email so that it is easier to understand.
Using pronouns

Personal pronouns (he/him, she/her, I/me, you/you, they/them, we/us, it/it) show who is doing what [to who]. Possessive pronouns (his, her, my, your, their, our, its) show who something belongs to.

Writing Practice

Complete the passage by using the correct pronouns.

I  my  we  your  his  he  our  they  you  me  him  us  them  it  its

My weekend

On Saturday night (1) I stayed up very late watching movies with
(2) my friend Tony. (3) We watched (4) my favorite movie and (5) his favorite movie. But after that (6) my father told us to go to bed. It was 1 a.m. and (8) he was trying to sleep!

On Sunday morning (9) we went to the park to fly kites. (10) Our kites looked so pretty flying in the sky!
(11) They were so high up, (12) we could almost not see (13) them. (14) They stayed up a long time too!
But then (15) my kite got stuck in a tree. (16) I couldn’t get (17) it out again because (18) its tail was caught on a tree branch. A boy in the park helped (19) me.
(20) He climbed the tree and got the kite for (21) me. “Here’s (22) your kite,” (23) he said. (24) I said thank you to (26) him.

On Sunday afternoon (27) I went home. What a great weekend (28) it was!
Write a sentence about each picture using the correct pronouns and the words given.

1. go / friend / house
   She is going to her friend’s house.

4. give / mother / money
   His mother gives him some money.

2. ride / bikes / park
   They ride their bikes in the park.

5. play / game / house
   He is playing a game at her house.

3. look / new / car
   They are looking at their new car.

6. stuck / kite / tree
   Her kite is stuck in a tree.
Listen and complete the paragraph.

(1) I had a great weekend. (2) I went to (3) my grandma and grandpa's house. (4) My grandma is a great cook. (5) She made some fantastic apple pie for (6) me. (7) Her cooking is always so delicious. (8) My grandpa likes board games. (9) He taught (10) me how to play chess. (11) I beat (12) him in one game! Maybe (13) he let me beat (14) him — (15) I am not sure.

Write a paragraph about your weekend and circle each pronoun you use.

My weekend

I had a fantastic weekend. I spent Sunday afternoon with my friend Karen. She is visiting from Canada. We had lunch at Maxi Mall and talked about many things. She told me about her friends in Canada. After lunch, I helped her buy presents for them. She bought a bag for her neighbor and scarves for her classmates. Soon it was time for us to say goodbye. Before leaving, she gave me a pin shaped like a butterfly. It was beautiful.
A  Write sentences using pronouns and the words given.

1  watch / TV / house

2  play / new / guitar

3  throw / ball / to

4  give / sister / book

B  Write a paragraph about your last vacation and circle each pronoun you use.
At the Circus

SUBJECT  Arts and Entertainment  
WRITING SKILL  Writing an introduction  
WRITING TASK  Write about an exciting thing at the circus.

Writing an introduction

In essays there are three basic parts: the introduction, body and conclusion. The introduction starts the writing and tells you what the writing is about. It can be one long sentence or a short paragraph.

A good introduction should

• express the main idea of the writing clearly. This will focus the readers’ attention on your main idea and help them understand the rest of your passage.
• not contain ideas which are not directly related to the main idea. If it does, it will lack focus and be confusing.
• not be too general; otherwise, the reader will not know exactly what he or she is going to read about.
• not be too specific. You should leave details and examples for the rest of your passage.

Look at the topic and the example introductions below:

What do you like to see at the zoo and why?

Good introduction: I like going to the zoo to see the monkeys. They are so funny!
Poor introduction [unrelated ideas]: I like going to the zoo to eat popcorn, feed the birds and see the monkeys.
Poor introduction [too general]: Zoos are great places.
Poor introduction [too specific]: I like going to the zoo to see the monkeys. They are so funny because they act like people. For example, they do tricks and play games.
At the Circus

What can you see at the circus? Discuss your answers.

Circus Fun

First, there are many amazing acts to see. There are acrobats flying through the air, fire breathers and people who can twist their bodies into unbelievable positions!

Second, there are so many creative performances. There are different kinds of music and dance and people wearing colorful costumes. You can also see clowns making silly jokes and doing funny tricks!

Some clowns are really clever. They can do amazing tricks.

Going to the circus can be a really fun and interesting experience.

Sometimes there are fire breathers and ice skaters, too.

Answer the question and follow the instruction.

1. Why is the introduction (opening sentence) you chose the best way to start this passage?
   It shows the main idea and the topic sentences support it.

2. Circle the topic sentence of each paragraph.
Writing an introduction

In essays there are three basic parts: the introduction, body and conclusion. The introduction starts the writing and tells us what the writing is about. It can be one long sentence or a short paragraph.

Choose the best introduction.

What is your favorite circus act and why?

Introduction: B

Topic sentence 1:
First, I’m really into amazing stunts.

Topic sentence 2:
Second, the fire breather is very brave and skillful.

Why do people enjoy going to the circus?

Introduction: C

Topic sentence 1:
First, there are many different acts to see.

Topic sentence 2:
Second, almost everyone loves to watch creative performances.
Write a short introduction and two topic sentences.

What is the most exciting thing to see at a circus?

Introduction: I think the sword-swallowing performance is the most exciting thing to see at a circus.

Topic sentence 1: First, it's amazing that a man can put a sword into his mouth and not get hurt.

Topic sentence 2: Second, some performers can put several swords into their mouths at one time.

What is the most exciting place in your city?

Introduction: The most exciting place in my city is the theme park.

Topic sentence 1: First, the theme park is huge and has many fantastic rides.

Topic sentence 2: Second, movie stars sometimes appear at the park.

Suggested answers
Students’ answers can vary

TIP: The introduction shows the main idea of the essay, and the topic sentences support that idea.
Read the passage and choose the best introduction.

**Introduction:** A

First, people have a chance to see animals. Maybe they have never seen these animals before. Circuses often have big elephants, fierce tigers, monkeys, horses, dogs, lions and even snakes.

Second, the animals are really talented. The elephants can use their trunks to do tricks. The dogs can jump through hoops or walk around like people. The monkeys can be even funnier than the clowns!

Listen to the passage and take notes. Then choose the best introduction.

**Introduction:** C

Notes:
- do not take good care of animals
- tied up and can’t move
- hurt animals to do tricks
- circuses keep hurting animals
- circuses exist because people keep paying

Use the introductions you chose to complete the statements.

1. The writer (Activity F) says that going to the circus **can be a really amazing experience** because of the animals there.

2. However, the speaker (Activity G) says that circuses are **bad for** animals and we are not helping animals when we go to the circus.
Write a short introduction and two topic sentences.

Who is the most interesting person at the circus?

**Introduction:**

**Topic sentence 1:**

**Topic sentence 2:**

What is your favorite kind of performance and why?

**Introduction:**

**Topic sentence 1:**

**Topic sentence 2:**
A Write a sentence about each picture using the words given.

1. bike / her
   She is riding her bike.

2. movie / his
   They are watching a movie at his house.

3. school / their
   They are standing in front of their school.

4. father / he
   Is he your father?
Choose the best introduction.

How can you learn about interesting animals?

**Introduction:** C

**Topic sentence 1:**
First, I can go to a nature park.

**Topic sentence 2:**
Second, I can watch documentaries on television.

A We are taking a school trip to a famous nature park next month.

B There are special people to take care of the animals.

C There are many kinds of interesting animals, and we can learn more about them in different ways.

Write an introduction and two topic sentences.

What are two countries in the world that interest you?

**Introduction:** Brazil and South Africa are two countries in the world that interest me.

**Topic sentence 1:** First, the best soccer team in the world is from Brazil.

**Topic sentence 2:** Second, South Africa has amazing safaris and wildlife.

Suggested answers
Students’ answers can vary
Writing cards for special events

Invitations
When you want to have a party, you can send out invitations. They show important information like the date, time and place of a party. On an invitation, you should also

- write why you are having the party or event (*It’s my birthday!*).
- give contact information [a phone number or email address] in case your guests need further details.
- include other information your guests need to know [I’m having a costume party].

Thank-you cards
After having a party, you should send thank-you cards to the people who attended. In the cards, you can thank them for coming (*Thank you so much for being there!*). If they gave you a gift, you should also thank them for it and tell them you like it (*Thank you for the present. It’s perfect!*).

After attending a party, people often send thank-you cards to the host to say they enjoyed the event. If you send a card, say that you had a good time (*The party was great!*). If you received a gift, you should thank the host for it (*Thank you for the box of chocolates*). You might also want to say something nice about some aspect of the party, such as the food or decorations (*Your cake was so beautiful* or *I loved the balloons*).
Party time!

When do people have parties? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

Read the cards.

Thank you!
Thank you for the party. It was exciting and fun. The food was really delicious. Your mother did a great job. Did she cook all that food? Your father was really funny. He was really kind and his jokes made us all laugh a lot. Thanks again!

Invitation
It's my 12th birthday and I'm going to have a party. I'd like you to be there!
Date: Saturday, September 21
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Place: My house, 2 Creswell Street
Phone: 555-7921

Thanks!
My birthday party on Saturday was so much fun. I had a great time. Thank you so much for coming.
Also, thank you for my present. I really liked it. It was a fantastic birthday!

Answer the questions and follow the instruction.

1. Which card was sent first? B.
2. Which card thanks somebody for a present? C.
3. Circle the pronouns on each card.
Writing cards for special events

Invitations show important information like the date, time and place of a party. After the party people send thank-you cards to say they enjoyed the event.

Use the sentences from the box to complete the cards.

It’s perfect! / I’d like you to come! / 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. /
The decorations were great. / My birthday party on Sunday was great. /
Thank you for inviting me to your party.

1. Invitation

It’s my 14th birthday and I’m going to have a party. (1) I’d like you to come!

Date: Sunday, June 21
Time: (2) 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Place: Ruby’s Restaurant, 64 High Road
Phone: 555-7109

2. Thanks!

(3) My birthday party on Sunday was great.
I had a really fun time. Thank you so much for being there. Also, thank you for my present. (4) It’s perfect!

3. Thank you!

(5) Thank you for inviting me to your party.

It was lots of fun. (6) The decorations were great.
Your father did a great job. Did he prepare all the balloons and streamers by himself?

Thanks again!
1. Write an invitation card to your birthday party.

   **Invitation**

   It’s my 13th birthday and I’m going to have a party. I’d like you to be there!
   Date: Saturday, September 7
   Time: 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
   Place: Peachy’s Pizza, 16 Woodhills Drive
   Phone: 555-8890

2. Write a thank-you card to a friend who came to your party.

   **Thanks!**

   My birthday party on Saturday was fantastic. I had a really great time!
   Thanks a lot for coming. Also, thank you for the gift. I loved it! It was a
terrific party.

   !tip
   Remember to use pronouns to show who
   is doing what and who something belongs to.
Integration

Use the first card in Activity E to invite three classmates to your party, and take notes about their parties.

1. Name: Junko
   Date: Sunday, March 1
   Place: My house, 231 Midpoint Street
   Party: 13th birthday
   Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
   Phone: 555-6792

2. Name: Ming
   Date: Friday, September 7
   Place: Burger Time, 6 Riverside Drive
   Party: 12th birthday
   Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
   Phone: 555-1107

3. Name: Ji-young
   Date: Saturday, December 12
   Place: Telville Park, 101 Telville Road
   Party: 14th birthday
   Time: 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
   Phone: 555-9145

G Pretend you have been to one of the parties above. Write a thank-you card to the person who had the party.

Thank you!
Thank you for inviting me to your party. I had so much fun. The music was cool and the food was delicious. Your mom did a great job. Did she cook all that food?
Thanks again!
Write your own cards.

1. Write an invitation card to a Christmas party you are having.

   Invitation
   _______________________
   _______________________
   _______________________
   _______________________
   _______________________

2. Write a thank-you card to a friend who came to your party.

   Thanks!
   _______________________
   _______________________
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Writing about a topic or issue

Brainstorming is the first step in the writing process. It allows you to come up with ideas without worrying about which are good and which are bad. One good brainstorming technique is to draw a brainstorm diagram. To begin, write the main idea in a box in the center of your paper. In bubbles connected to this box, note down ideas related to this main idea. Finally, lines extending from these bubbles are used to write down supporting details.

After you brainstorm, you need to choose which of your ideas you want to write about. To choose, look for the ideas that best answer the topic and seem the most convincing. You will use these ideas to make a plan.

A plan is an organized outline of the exact things you want to write about. At the top of the plan, write the title and the introduction. You can find information for your title in the centre box of your brainstorm diagram. Using ideas from the bubbles in your diagram, write the topic and the topic sentence of each paragraph. Finally, use the details from your diagram as the details on the plan.

Brainstorming and planning can help you to write clearly about a topic or issue. They help you organize your ideas into paragraphs and stay focused on the main idea.
How can we protect the planet? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

Look at the brainstorm diagram and read the plan.

What are some of the ways we can protect our planet?

**Brainstorm**
- stop pollution
- save places they live in
- protect them from hunters
- stop greenhouse gases
- save animals
- invent new clean power
- recycle and use things again
- use less coal and oil
- protect]

**Plan**

**Title:** Protecting our planet

**Introduction:** We can protect our planet in many ways.

**Body paragraph 1:** Stop greenhouse gases

- Topic sentence: First of all, we can make less greenhouse gases.
- Details: recycle and use things again, use less coal and oil, invent new clean power

**Body paragraph 2:** Save animals

- Topic sentence: Second, we can save the animals on the planet.
- Details: protect them from hunters, save the places they live in

Follow the instructions.

1. On the brainstorm diagram, cross out the ideas the writer chose not to write about.
2. On the plan, circle the introduction and the two main ideas.
Writing about a topic or issue

Brainstorming is very quick thinking and note taking. A plan is an organized outline of the exact things we want to write about. Brainstorming and planning can help us to write clearly about a topic or issue.

Writing Practice

D Complete the plan.

What are some of the ways people can learn more about our planet?

**Learning more about our planet**

Learning more about our planet is very important. People can do this in many ways.

First of all, people can visit a museum. There is a lot of useful information there. People can see pictures and ask questions.

Second, people can go out into the countryside. They can see nature with their own eyes. They can see the land and the animals.

**Plan**

**Title:** Learning more about our planet

**Introduction:** Learning more about our planet is very important. People can do this in many ways.

**Body paragraph 1:** Museum

- Topic sentence: People can visit a museum.
- Details: a lot of useful information, see pictures, ask questions

**Body paragraph 2:** Countryside

- Topic sentence: People can go out into the countryside.
- Details: see nature with own eyes, see land and animals
Brainstorm and plan an essay and write it on a separate piece of paper.

What are some ways your family can protect the planet?

**Brainstorm**
- donate old toys
- paper, cans and bottles
- don’t leave taps running
- take shorter showers
- recycle things
- save water
- turn off lights
- save energy
- walk instead of drive

**Plan**

**Title:** Protecting the planet

**Introduction:** My family can help protect the planet in many ways.

**Body paragraph 1:** Recycle things

**Topic sentence:** First of all, we can recycle things instead of throwing them away.

**Details:** donate old toys, recycle paper, cans and bottles

**Body paragraph 2:** Save water

**Topic sentence:** Second, we can save water in our home.

**Details:** don’t leave taps running, take shorter showers

**Tip:** When you write the plan, cross out unused ideas on the brainstorm diagram.
Listen and complete the brainstorm diagram. Complete the plan on your own.

How can learning English help children learn more about other cultures?

Brainstorm

- learn about other places
  - many books in English
  - international news
  - read more books
  - watch TV programs

- many programs in English
  - kids in other countries
  - tell about my country

Plan

Title: Learn English – learn about other cultures

Introduction: Many children learn English these days. This can also help them to learn about other cultures.

Body paragraph 1: TV programs
  Topic sentence: First of all, we can watch TV programs.
  Details: international news, many programs in English

Body paragraph 2: Kids in other countries
  Topic sentence: Second, we can speak English with kids in other countries.
  Details: learn about their country, tell about my country

Use the plan to write an essay on a separate piece of paper.
Brainstorm and plan an essay about the topic.

What are some ways we can protect wildlife?

---

### Brainstorm

![Brainstorm diagram]

### Plan

**Title:**

**Introduction:**

**Body paragraph 1:**

- Topic sentence:

- Details:

**Body paragraph 2:**

- Topic sentence:

- Details:
A) Write an email to your friend and invite him/her to your party.

To: Lizzie <liz@coolgirlz.net>  Date: Mon., Aug. 13
From: Jerry <jerry9@bestmail.ca>  Subject: Invitation

Hello, Lizzie!

It’s my 12th birthday on Friday and I’m going to have a party. I’d like you to come!

Date: Saturday, August 18
Time: 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Place: Chicken Express, 1886 Beachfront Road
Phone: 555-1933

Jerry

B) You went to your friend’s party yesterday. Send an email to say thank you.

To: Tim <tim@boostmail.com>  Date: Mon., Jul. 20
From: Mary <mary@coolgirlz.net>  Subject: Thank you!

Hi there, Tim!

Thanks for inviting me to your party. I had so much fun! I really like your sisters. They were very friendly. The food was delicious. I ate a lot of pizza!

Thanks again!

Mary
What are some of the ways students can improve their English ability?

### Brainstorm
- learn new words
- take note of English grammar
- watch without subtitles
- listen to pronunciation
- read English books
- watch English programs
- practice with friends
- talk in English
- talk to a native English speaker

### Plan

**Title:** Improving your English

**Introduction:** There are many ways students can improve their English ability.

**Body paragraph 1: Read English books**

*Topic sentence:* First, they should read a lot of English books.

*Details:* learn new words, take note of English grammar

**Body paragraph 2: Talk in English**

*Topic sentence:* Second, they should talk in English as much as possible.

*Details:* practice with friends, talk to a native English speaker
Unit 5
Riddles

Unit Overview

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<td>Writing descriptive sentences</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRITING TASK</td>
<td>Write your own riddles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Writing Skill

Writing descriptive sentences

To describe things well, use sentences that show how things look, sound, smell, taste or feel. You can use these kinds of sentences to help your reader imagine a feeling or image, for example, *The wind felt cold.* and *The view looked like a painting.*

You can use these patterns to write descriptive sentences:

\[
\text{[thing]} + \text{look}[s]/\text{sound}[s]/\text{feel}[s]/\text{smell}[s]/\text{taste}[s] + \text{[adjective]} \quad (\text{The soup tastes salty.})
\]

\[
\text{[thing]} + \text{look}[s]/\text{sound}[s]/\text{feel}[s]/\text{smell}[s]/\text{taste}[s] + \text{like} + \text{[another thing]} \quad (\text{The rope looks like a snake.})
\]

To give students practice making descriptive sentences, try the following activity.

1. On small pieces of paper, write sentences using both patterns *(Sugar tastes sweet. Hair looks like string.)*. Then cut the sentences in half *(Sugar tastes / sweet. Hair looks / like string.)*.

2. Give each student one piece of paper. Explain that they need to go around the class and find the person who has the other half of their sentence.

3. When the students have found their partners, have each pair read their sentence to the class.

Answers for Unit 5 Worksheet (p. 41)

A
1. The cookie tastes great.
2. My teddy bear feels really warm.
3. Your perfume smells like wild flowers.
4. The wind sounds like someone whispering.

[Suggested answers; students’ answers can vary]

B

[Students’ answers can vary]
A What is a riddle? Discuss your answers.

B Before You Write

B 10 Read the riddles. Can you guess the answers?

What is it?

You can find this thing in somebody's house. It looks like a big white box. It is usually quiet, but if it is old, it can sound like a car engine! It feels cold and smooth on the outside. Inside it looks and smells like a small supermarket.

Answer: Refrigerator.

What is it?

You can find this thing in the countryside. It is usually very big. If you are on it, you can see very far and hear the sound of birds. You can feel the wind on your face. You can often smell trees and flowers, but near the top you may feel very cold.

Answer: Mountain.

What is it?

You can find this thing on the beach or on a dinner plate. In the water, it moves like a snake. When it is on the beach, it looks like wet green rope. It feels slimy and smells salty. When it is on a dinner plate, it looks like dark green paper. It feels rough and old. It smells like the sea. If you eat it, it tastes like a vegetable or plant.

Answer: Seaweed.

Follow the instruction.

In each riddle, underline the words used to show how things look, sound, smell, feel, taste or move.
Writing descriptive sentences

To describe things well, use sentences that show how things look, sound, smell, taste or feel.

You can use these patterns:
- [thing] + look[s]/sound[s]/feel[s]/smell[s]/taste[s] + [adjective]
- [thing] + look[s]/sound[s]/feel[s]/smell[s]/taste[s] + like + [another thing]

Writing Practice

D. Complete the sentences using words or phrases from the box.

flowers and fresh rain / salty / little ants / an elephant / big boxes / quite scary / wet green rope / warm and pleasant / tiny

a. The seaweed looks like 1 wet green rope and it smells 2 salty.

b. He sounds like 3 an elephant when he gets angry, and he looks 4 quite scary.

c. Spring feels 5 warm and pleasant and the air smells like 6 flowers and fresh rain.

d. From above, the buildings look like 7 big boxes and the people look 8 tiny, moving around like 9 little ants.
Write a riddle for each picture.

1. What is it? You can find this thing in your pencil case.
   It is small, shaped like a rectangle and has a small hole.
   It feels hard, cold and sharp. If you turn your pencil inside the hole, it makes a noise and sharpens your pencil.

2. What is it? You can find this thing in a computer store.
   It is square and feels hard. It runs on electricity and connects to a computer. When you turn it on you can see words and pictures on it.

3. What is it? You can find this thing in a supermarket or in your refrigerator. It’s a vegetable that can be eaten raw or cooked. It is thin and looks shiny. It tastes hot and spicy.

4. What is it? You can find this thing in your kitchen. It looks and feels like sand. It is usually white. You put it in food and drinks. It tastes sweet.

5. What is it? You can find it on the street. It is a big place that sells all kinds of things. It has several departments, and the sound is different in each one. If you’re in the electronics department, you can hear music.
Listen and complete the riddles. Then guess the answers.

a What is it?
You can find it in **grass** or **trees**. It looks like **a rope** and it can be very **colorful or just one color**. It **doesn't have legs**.

Answer: **Snake**.

b What is it?
You can find this in **many houses and schools**. It usually has **a round shape and many numbers**. It makes **a ticking sound**. It is **very useful**.

Answer: **Clock**.

Work with a classmate and come up with your own riddle. Let the rest of the class guess the answer.

What is it?
You can find it in a bakery. It is usually round and cut up in slices. It feels soft and tastes sweet. You usually have it for **dessert or to celebrate a birthday**.

Answer: **Cake**.

*Suggested answers*
Students' answers can vary
A Write sentences using the words given.

1 cookie / tastes

2 teddy bear / feels

3 perfume / smells like

4 wind / sounds like

B Write a riddle for each item.

1 kitten

2 TV
Writing body paragraphs

As we saw in Unit 2, in essays there are three basic parts: the introduction, body and conclusion. Body paragraphs come in the middle of an essay, after the introduction and before the conclusion. They give us the main information, details and examples.

Look at the introduction and body paragraph:

Introduction: Kyoto is a great place to visit in spring!

Body Paragraph: First of all, the Cherry Blossom Festival is in spring. You can see blossoms throughout the city. However, one of the best spots to see them is in Maruyama Park.

When writing a body paragraph, remember

- it should support the main idea in the introduction. If it does not, it should not be included.
- it should have a topic sentence.
- it can start with a word or phrase that shows order (First, Second).

To give students practice writing body paragraphs, try the following activity.

1 Write out an essay, including a title, introduction and six sentences forming two body paragraphs. Then cut up the essay into sentences and add two more sentences that do not fit in the essay.
2 Have students get into groups and put the essay in order. Make sure they do not include the two unrelated sentences.

Answers for Unit 6 Worksheet (p. 47)

A First, there are many events in spring. One of these events is the Cherry Blossom Festival. Many people come to Washington to see the cherry trees during this time. Another popular event is the White House Easter Egg Roll.

B [Students’ answers can vary]
What is your favorite season? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

Choose the best paragraph to match each topic sentence.

A City of Two Seasons

I live in Singapore. There are two main seasons in my city and they are very different.

First of all, my city has a long dry season.

Second, after the dry season my city has a wet season.

This is when the big monsoon storms start. The sky is gray all the time. Almost every day you can hear the sound of rain. Often you can see lightning and hear thunder.

There are many buildings in the city. They look like huge shiny boxes. There is also a lot of traffic, so you can hear the sound of cars and trucks all the time. There are a lot of people, so it often feels crowded, too.

It is very sunny during this time. The sky is deep blue. You can hear the sound of insects in the trees. The buildings in the city look shiny and bright. People seem happy at this time.

Follow the instruction and answer the question.

1. Circle the introduction of the essay.

2. Which details in the paragraphs you chose support the topic sentences?
   Long dry season: sunny, sky is blue, sound of insects, shiny and bright.
   Wet season: monsoon storms, sky is gray, sound of rain, lightning, thunder.

33
Writing body paragraphs

In essays there are three basic parts: the introduction, body and conclusion. Body paragraphs come in the middle of an essay and give us the main information, details and examples. Body paragraphs support the big idea in the introduction.

Writing Practice

Choose and add details to support the topic sentence of each body paragraph. Circle two ideas that don’t belong.

Chicago in spring and fall

I live in Chicago in the United States. Spring and fall are special seasons in my city.

First, my city has a wonderful spring. It rains a lot, but the rain feels fresh and clean. The parks in the city are very green. Spring makes people happy, so I can hear a lot of people laughing.

Second, my city is a great place to be in the fall. The leaves on the trees turn yellow, red and brown. They fall to the ground and look like colorful pieces of paper. The wind feels nice and cool after the hot summer months.

- It's a great time to make a snowman.
- The parks in the city are very green.
- They fall to the ground and look like colorful pieces of paper.
- The wind feels nice and cool after the hot summer months.
- My father's car sounds very loud.
- Spring makes people happy, so I can hear a lot of people laughing.
Write paragraphs describing your city in winter and summer.

Title → Seoul in winter and summer

Introduction → I live in Seoul. Winter and summer are very different seasons in my city.

Winter → First, my city gets very cold and dry in winter. The temperature can drop as low as -13 degrees Celsius. But it's OK because we can always stay inside our homes. They have special floors that heat up and keep us nice and warm.

Summer → Second, my city gets hot in the summer. The temperature sometimes goes above 36 degrees Celsius. Some people stay cool by going to the park. Others just stay in their air-conditioned homes.

Suggested answers
Students' answers can vary

Tip
Write a title and an introduction that shows your main idea. Write a topic sentence for each paragraph and use details to support it.
Choose the best paragraph to match the topic sentence.

The great Canadian winter

I live in Calgary in Canada. Winter is a great time to be in Calgary!

For a start, the weather is fantastic.

A Everywhere you look there are flowers and green grass. You can hear bees buzzing and feel a warm breeze.

B It's very hot and you sweat all the time. It's a great time to go to the beach.

C The air smells fresh. Everything looks white and clean. It's also very quiet. The falling snow is very special.

Listen and complete the paragraph.

The terrible Canadian winter

I live in Calgary in Canada. Winter is the (1) ______ worst ______ time to be in Calgary!

First, the weather makes me feel very sad. The air is so cold you can't even feel your (2) ______ face ______! Everything looks (3) ______ white, gray and boring ______. It often gets very (4) ______ windy ______, so it is (5) ______ noisy ______ at night. The sound of the wind can make you feel (6) ______ lonely and scared ______.

Use the information above to complete the statements.

1 The writer (Activity F) says that winter is a great time to be in Calgary because the air smells fresh and everything looks white and clean.

2 However, the speaker (Activity G) says that winter is the worst time to be in Calgary because it is very cold and windy and the weather makes him feel very sad.
Choose and add details to support the topic sentence of the body paragraph.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Washington D.C. in spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I live in Washington, D.C. The spring is a great season to visit my city.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First, there are many events in spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The trees look gray.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Another popular event is the White House Easter Egg Roll.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Many people come to Washington to see the cherry trees during this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- It is very cold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- One of these events is the Cherry Blossom Festival.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write a paragraph describing your city in the fall.

---

---
A Write a sentence about each picture using the words given.

1. look / box
   The building looks like a gray box.

2. sound / robot
   The boy sounds like a robot.

3. feel / warm and pleasant
   The water feels warm and pleasant.

4. smell / sweet and fresh
   The flowers smell sweet and fresh.
Melbourne in summer and winter

I come from Melbourne in Australia. Summer and winter are very different seasons in Melbourne.

First, my city is not a great place to be in the winter. Usually we do not get any snow, but it rains a lot.

There is a lot of wind, and sometimes it is very cold.
The trees look sad and gray.

However, my city is a great place to be in the summer. Summer looks and feels like paradise in Melbourne!

Everybody seems very happy. The sky is deep blue and the air is fresh. You can hear people playing outside.

Write one paragraph to describe your city in spring.

I live in Tokyo in Japan. Tokyo is very beautiful in spring. The cherry blossoms are in bloom. People go out to look at cherry blossom trees. They hold parties under the trees. They have fun eating, drinking, singing and dancing.
Writing about exciting places

Travel websites tell you about exciting places to visit. They use good descriptions that contain a lot of adjectives to convince you to visit these places, for example, *Visit the incredible Taj Mahal—one of the most beautiful buildings on Earth!* They also use action verbs to describe the activities you can do at their destinations. This helps you imagine doing the activities yourself and makes you want to visit, for example, *Climb to the peak of this amazing mountain!* To make the reader more interested in their destinations, travel websites also use a lot of beautiful pictures.

Travel websites give you useful information about

- what to see and do, including information about popular sights and special events.
- where to stay, including information about hotels and other kinds of accommodation.
- how to get there, namely details on how to get to and from the city.

You should separate the above information into categories on your website. To make this information easier to find and understand, you should also use headings to summarize the information contained in each one.
A What places in the world are popular for tourists to visit? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

B Read the travel webpage.

http://www.athenstravelz.biz

Athens – City of History and Culture
A great place to visit in any season!
Plan that Athens vacation NOW!

Amazing Sights and Sounds
Come and experience ancient Greece. Feel like you have stepped back in history as you walk along the old stone streets. Smell the orange trees, and listen to friendly people in markets and restaurants. Taste really delicious Greek food!

Lots to See and Do
Tour the spectacular Acropolis and visit the ancient Parthenon.
Wander the streets and see white stone buildings with bright flowerpots hanging from the balconies. Watch Greek drama acted out in an ancient theater.

Where to Stay
There are thousands of hotels to choose from. Stay in small comfortable hotels or huge ones full of history!

How to Get There
Getting to Athens is easy! Just fly to the international airport.

Answer the questions and follow the instructions.

1 What are the six different parts of this travel webpage? What does each part tell you?
2 Underline the parts that talk about things you can see, hear, feel, smell or taste.
3 Which sentences begin with action words? Why are they written like that?

Most sentences begin with action words to convince the reader to do these things.
Writing about exciting places

Travel websites tell us about exciting places to visit. They use good descriptions and give us useful information about what to see and do, where to stay and how to get there.

Plan a travel webpage about a city you know.

A. City and title:
   Hong Kong - Shopping and Dining Paradise

B. Introduction:
   A fun place to shop for clothes and electronics! A great place for authentic Chinese food. Visit Hong Kong now!

C. What are some things you can see, hear, smell, feel and taste?
   - See shops selling the best brands.
   - Taste delicious Cantonese dim sum.
   - Listen to live bands playing popular songs.

D. What are some interesting things to see and do?
   - Visit Hong Kong Disneyland.
   - Tour temples and country parks.
   - Take a tram across Hong Kong Island.

E. How can people get there?
   People can reach Hong Kong by plane, train or ferry.

F. What ideas do you have for pictures?
   - People in a restaurant eating dim sum
   - Hong Kong tram
   - Hiking in country park

*Suggested answers
Students’ answers can vary*
Write the travel webpage using the plan in Activity D. Stick or draw pictures in the boxes.

**C: Amazing sights and sounds**
- See shops selling the best brands.
- Taste delicious Cantonese dim sum.
- Listen to live bands playing popular songs.

**D: Lots to see and do**
- Visit Hong Kong Disneyland. Tour temples and country parks. Take a tram across Hong Kong Island.

**E: How to get there**
- People can reach Hong Kong by plane, train or ferry.

**A: Hong Kong – Shopping and Dining Paradise**
- A fun place to shop for clothes and electronics!
- A great place for authentic Chinese food.
- Visit Hong Kong now!

**F: [Picture]**

*Suggested answers*

Students’ answers can vary

Use large writing for the city name and title.
Make notes about a classmate's travel webpage by asking the questions below.

A. What city is your webpage about?
   Honolulu

B. How do you introduce the city?
   A great place to visit and experience!
   
   Come to Honolulu now!

C. What are some things you can see, hear, smell, feel, and taste in this city?
   Taste the delicious fruit and seafood.
   See the rainforests, canyons, waterfalls, mountains and golden beaches.
   Feel the fresh air blowing on your face.

D. What are some interesting things to see and do?
   Visit Pearl Harbor.
   Take surfing lessons at Waikiki Beach.
   See the Waikiki Aquarium.

E. How can people get there?
   People can get to Honolulu by plane.

Report what you learned about your classmate's travel webpage to the class.
Write a travel webpage about a new city and stick or draw a picture in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amazing sights and sounds</th>
<th>Lots to see and do</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Picture</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where to stay</th>
<th>How to get there</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
Writing an essay to describe a place

Some essays describe a place in a creative way to help the reader imagine what the place is like. In these essays, you can write descriptive sentences using adjectives to show what things look, sound, smell or feel like.

Before teaching this unit, review how to write descriptive sentences with your students (see Unit 5). You may also want to try the following activity which will help them understand how to create images in the reader’s mind.

1. Before the lesson, prepare two descriptions of a house—a poor one and a good one. For the poor description, be brief and use only a few vague adjectives. For example, *There is a big house. It looks nice. There is also a little garden.* For the good description, describe the house in detail, using a variety of adjectives. For example, *There is a big house in the middle of a nice neighborhood. It has three round windows and a square door. The house looks very friendly. In front of it there is a fence and a garden full of beautiful flowers. They smell like perfume. You can hear children laughing and playing.*

2. In class, give students the poor description first. Have them sketch the house. Once they have finished, have them compare their pictures with several classmates. They may find that their pictures are quite different.

3. Next, give students the good description and have them sketch again. Then have them compare their pictures and discuss the differences between the first and second groups of pictures.
Outside our town, there is a spooky old house. I went to see it one time with my friends. We all think the house is haunted!

First of all, from the outside the house looks scary. It is big and made of old gray wood. The windows are all broken and dark. They look like open mouths with sharp teeth.

Around the house is a wild garden. The weeds smell bad and they look like snakes on the ground. You can hear strange noises in the garden, too.

Second, if you go inside the house it is even scarier! It is very dark and it is difficult to see—even in daylight. You can hear many creaking sounds. Inside the house it feels very cold—just like being inside a refrigerator ...

---

C Answer the questions.

1. What do the windows look like from the outside? **Open mouths with sharp teeth.**
2. How does the writer make the garden sound scary? **By saying the weeds smell bad and look like snakes and that you can hear strange noises in the garden.**
3. What can you hear inside the house? What does the air inside feel like? **Creaking sounds. It feels just like being inside a refrigerator.**
**Writing Skill**

Writing an essay to describe a place

Some essays describe a place in a creative way to help the reader imagine what the place is like. These essays use adjectives to show what things look, sound, smell or feel like.

**Writing Practice**

Plan an essay about an interesting place.

**Title:** The zoo

**Introduction:** One of the most popular places in my city is the zoo. People come from all over the country to visit it.

**Body paragraph 1:** Animals

Topic sentence: First of all, the zoo has many different animals.

Details: 600 species from all over the world, some are very rare—Siberian tiger, some cute—koalas and lemurs

**Body paragraph 2:** Night safari

Topic sentence: Second, the zoo has an excellent night safari.

Details: take train through special area of zoo, see many night animals, really fun and learn a lot

---

*Suggested answers*

Students’ answers can vary
Write the essay you planned in Activity D.

Title — The zoo

Introduction — One of the most popular places in my city is the zoo. People come from all over the country to visit it.

Body 1 — First of all, the zoo has many different animals. It has over 600 species from all over the world. Some of these are very rare, such as the Siberian tiger. Others are very cute, like the koalas and the lemurs.

Body 2 — Second, the zoo has an excellent night safari. On the safari, you take a train through a special area of the zoo. Here you will see many interesting night animals. It is really fun and you learn a lot.

Suggested answers
Students' answers can vary

Use adjectives to make your sentences descriptive.
Read the topic and look at the brainstorm diagram. Listen and complete the writing plan.

Write an essay about a very exciting place.

**Plan**

**Title:** A very exciting place

**Introduction:** In our city there is a really amazing amusement park. I’ve been there many times. It is a very exciting place.

**Body paragraph 1:** Roller coaster

*Topic sentence:* First of all, the roller coaster is really incredible.

*Details:* hear the sound of screams, feels just like flying, sit in the front—even scarier

**Body paragraph 2:** Ferris wheel

*Topic sentence:* Second, there is the amazing Ferris wheel.

*Details:* looks like a huge wheel, feels like an open elevator, you can see the whole city

Use the plan to write an essay on a separate sheet of paper.
Plan an essay about a beautiful place.

Title →

Introduction →

Body 1 →

Body 2 →
Sensational Stockholm –
City of history and charm!

This is Stockholm! (1) **A great place to be,**
especially in summer! It’s the most beautiful city in Sweden, so (2) **plan that Stockholm vacation NOW!**

Amazing sights and sounds

(3) **Come and enjoy the sight of** beautiful old buildings that look like they are floating on the water. Listen to (4) **the sound of friendly people** in the outdoor restaurants. (5) **Taste** the delicious fresh fish and potato dishes!

Lots to see and do

Tour the amazing Djur Island, Europe’s best outdoor zoo. Watch the colorful boats on the waterfront. (7) **See the royal palace** —and feel like you have stepped back in history!

How to get there

(8) **Getting to Stockholm is easy!**

Fly to Sweden’s international airport outside Stockholm.

Where to stay

There are thousands of hotels to choose from. (6) **Stay in small comfortable hotels** or huge modern hotels with all the luxuries!
Plan an essay about the topic. Then write one of the body paragraphs.

Write an essay about a place you went to last summer. Describe two different parts of the place.

**Plan**

**Title:** The Botanical Garden

**Introduction:** Last summer I went to the Botanical Garden. It is one of the most beautiful places in our city.

**Body paragraph 1:** Greenhouse

**Topic sentence:** First, it has a greenhouse with different kinds of flowers and plants.

**Details:** over 150 interesting species, orchids, ferns

**Body paragraph 2:** Park

**Topic sentence:** Second, there is a beautiful English-style park.

**Details:** landscape, lake in the middle, wooden bridge

**Write**

First, it has a greenhouse with different kinds of flowers and plants. You can see over 150 interesting species. These include orchids and ferns.
**Unit Overview**

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<th>SUBJECT</th>
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<td>WRITING SKILL</td>
<td>Writing facts and opinions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRITING TASK</td>
<td>Write facts and opinions about Harry Potter actors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Writing Skill**

**Writing facts and opinions**

Sometimes when you write something, you may want to show facts—pieces of information that most people can agree are true or real. You can also show readers your opinions—what you think about things. Unlike facts, however, peoples’ opinions may be different and they may not agree. To show an opinion, you can use opinion phrases such as *I think, I believe, I feel* and *in my opinion*. Look at the following to see how these phrases can be used in a sentence:

*I think* Tom Cruise is a good actor.

*I believe* Harry Potter is a fantastic movie.

*I feel* Superman is the best superhero.

*In my opinion*, his hair is nice.

You can help students practice recognizing facts and opinions by reading out sentences and asking them to decide whether they are facts or opinions. Try to read out some very clear examples of each (*Fact: My hair is black. Opinion: I think my clothes are nice.*), as well as some that students may find confusing (*Opinion that seems like a fact: Girls can learn English more easily than boys.*). You may also want to ask students to change facts into opinions or vice versa (*Fact: Our teacher gives us homework. Opinion: I think our teacher gives us too much homework.*).

**Answers for Unit 9 Worksheet (p. 69)**

**A**

1. I think Emma Watson is an excellent actress.
2. I believe Daniel Radcliffe is handsome.
   
   [Suggested answers; students’ answers can vary]
3. I feel Alan Rickman is very intelligent.
4. In my opinion, Rupert Grint is very interesting.

**B**

[Students’ answers can vary]
Daniel’s magic!

I think Daniel Radcliffe is the perfect person to play the role of Harry Potter.

First of all, I believe Daniel is a good actor. He acted in some television movies before, including “David Copperfield.” His father owns a show business company and his mother is a casting agent (which means she chooses actors for movies and plays).

Second, in my opinion Daniel looks a lot like the Harry Potter character in the books. He has dark hair and big eyes just like Harry Potter. I think Daniel looks smart and naughty. Harry Potter is smart and naughty, too.

The movie director and even the writer J. K. Rowling said that Daniel looks just like Harry Potter.

In conclusion, I think Daniel Radcliffe is the best actor to play Harry Potter.

Follow the instructions.

1. Circle the sentences where the writer shows an opinion.
2. Underline the sentences where facts are shown.
Writing facts and opinions
Sometimes when we write something, we want to show facts—things that most people can agree are true or real. We can also show readers our opinions—what we think. To show an opinion, you can use opinion phrases like I think, I believe, and in my opinion.

Writing Practice
D Rewrite the sentences using different opinion phrases.

1. Katie Leung is a talented actor.
   I think Katie Leung is a talented actor.

2. She is perfect for the role of Cho Chang.
   I believe she is perfect for the role of Cho Chang.

3. Katie looks very smart.
   In my opinion, she looks very smart.

4. She will be really famous someday.
   I believe she will be really famous someday.

5. She didn’t get the role very easily.
   I don’t think she got the role very easily.

Suggested answers
Students’ answers can vary

Try using this:
I don’t think he/she/it ...
Write a fact and an opinion about each of the Harry Potter actors.

1. **Rupert Grint (Ron)**
   - **Fact:** He has red hair and blue eyes.
   - **Opinion:** I think he is funny and a good actor.

2. **Alan Rickman (Snape)**
   - **Fact:** He has light brown hair.
   - **Opinion:** I think he is an excellent actor.

3. **Emma Watson (Hermione)**
   - **Fact:** She has brown eyes.
   - **Opinion:** In my opinion, she is a talented actress.

4. **Emma Thompson (Trelawny)**
   - **Fact:** She has blonde hair.
   - **Opinion:** In my opinion, she is very intelligent.
Listen and complete the paragraph. Then circle the opinion phrases.

My favorite Harry Potter actor is Tom Felton. He plays Draco in the movies. Tom is (1) a very talented actor. He started acting when (2) he was eight. He has been in some (3) other good movies too. Second, (4) he is perfect for the role of Draco. Tom is (5) a nice boy, but he plays an evil character. His acting is (6) wonderful to watch.

Work with a classmate. Read the facts and opinions you wrote in Activity E on page 51. Write down each other’s sentences.

1. Rupert Grint plays Ron in the Harry Potter movies. He has red hair and blue eyes. I think he is funny and a good actor.

2. Alan Rickman plays Snape in the Harry Potter movies. He has wrinkles. I think he is a funny actor.

3. Emma Watson plays Hermione in the Harry Potter movies. She has brown hair. I think she is very pretty.

4. Emma Thompson plays Trelawny in the Harry Potter movies. She has blue eyes. In my opinion, she is better at comedies than dramas.
A  Rewrite the sentences using different opinion phrases.

1  Emma Watson is an excellent actress.

2  Daniel Radcliffe is handsome.

3  Alan Rickman is very intelligent.

4  Rupert Grint is very entertaining.

B  Write a fact and an opinion about each person.

1  Your favorite singer
   Name: ____________________
   Fact: ____________________
   Opinion: ____________________

2  Your favorite actor
   Name: ____________________
   Fact: ____________________
   Opinion: ____________________

3  Your best friend
   Name: ____________________
   Fact: ____________________
   Opinion: ____________________

4  Your hero
   Name: ____________________
   Fact: ____________________
   Opinion: ____________________
SUBJECT | Arts and Entertainment
---|---
WRITING SKILL | Writing a conclusion
WRITING TASK | Write about your opinion of comic books.

**Writing a conclusion**

As you have already seen in Units 2 and 6, in essays there are three basic parts: the introduction, body and conclusion. The conclusion should

- finish the writing and summarize the main ideas.
- restate the information in the introduction, but not repeat it exactly.
- not contain any new ideas.
- not contradict anything you said in the rest of the essay.

You can use the following phrases to show your reader where your conclusion begins.

*In conclusion*  
*To conclude*  
*To sum up*  
*All in all*

Look at the introduction and the example conclusions below.

**Introduction:** I don’t think it is a good idea for students to play video games.

**Poor conclusion [repeats introduction]:** In conclusion, I don’t think it is a good idea for students to play video games.

**Poor conclusion [contradicts introduction]:** To conclude, students should play video games.

**Poor conclusion [contains new ideas]:** To sum up, students should not play video games or watch DVDs.

**Good conclusion:** In conclusion, I think playing video games can be bad for students and they should not play them.

---

**Answers for Unit 10 Worksheet (p. 75)**

A  
In conclusion, I believe that with his amazing abilities, Super Ant is the best new superhero.  
[Suggested answer; students’ answers can vary]

B  
[Students’ answers can vary]
Who is your favorite superhero? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

Read the passage and choose the best sentence to finish it.

In conclusion, I think the Superman movie Superman Returns is really fantastic.

First, I think it has a great storyline. Superman comes back to Earth after five years. When he gets back, he makes a huge discovery. Also, the bad guy Lex Luthor has a new plan to take over the world, but Superman stops him!

Second, the movie has really amazing special effects. Superman really looks like he can fly. His special “heat vision” seems so real. Also, Superman is bulletproof!

I think the Superman movie Superman Returns is really boring and not very interesting to watch.

All in all, Superman Returns is a terrific movie.

To conclude, I think the Superman movie Superman Returns is really terrible.

Answer the question and follow the instruction.

1 Why is the conclusion (finishing sentence or paragraph) you chose the best way to end this essay? Because it shows the main ideas and restates the opinion in the introduction.

2 In the essay, circle the topic sentence of each paragraph.
Writing a conclusion

In essays there are three basic parts: the introduction, body and conclusion. The conclusion finishes the writing and summarizes the main ideas. It should restate the information in the introduction, but not repeat it exactly.

D Read the plan for each essay and choose the best conclusion.

Do you think Superman is a special hero? Why or why not?

Introduction:
I think Superman is a very special hero.

Topic sentence 1:
First, he has amazing powers.

Topic sentence 2:
Second, he always tries to help people.

Conclusion: C

Do you like going to the movies? Why or why not?

Introduction:
In my opinion, going to the movies is not much fun.

Topic sentence 1:
First of all, I think it’s always very crowded and noisy.

Topic sentence 2:
Second, I feel watching DVDs at home is more fun.

Conclusion: B
Write an introduction, two topic sentences and a conclusion.

Do you like comic books? Why or why not?

**Introduction:** I like comic books.

**Topic sentence 1:** First, they are very entertaining.

**Topic sentence 2:** Second, they are easy to read.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, I enjoy reading comic books very much.

---

Do you think it would be good to have super powers? Why or why not?

**Introduction:** In my opinion, it would be good to have super powers.

**Topic sentence 1:** First, I could fight crime.

**Topic sentence 2:** Second, I could do more things in less time.

**Conclusion:** All in all, I think having super powers would be great.

---

*Tip* Use these expressions: In conclusion / To conclude / To sum up / All in all
Many students read comic books these days. I don’t think it is a good idea for students to read comics.

For a start, it is a waste of time. Students are busy and have a lot of homework to do. Reading comics is bad for their education.

Second, comics don’t teach anything. Children start to dream about having super powers. However, in real life they will never have these powers. Comics don’t teach us things that are useful.

**Conclusion:** B

---

In my opinion, comic books are **really great** for the students that like to read them.

First, I think comic books **are really creative**. They have creative stories where funny or strange things can happen. In addition, we can read about a lot of **interesting characters**. Therefore, I think comic books help us to think more creatively.

Second, I believe that comics are good for students who don’t like reading much. Comics have a lot of really **amazing pictures** and not too many words to read. This makes some students feel **more relaxed**.

**Conclusion:** A
A Write a conclusion for the topic.

Who is the best new superhero and why?

Introduction:
I think Super Ant is the best new superhero.

Topic sentence 1:
First, he has super strength.

Topic sentence 2:
Second, he can hear what people are thinking.

Conclusion:

B Write an introduction, two topic sentences and a conclusion.

Do you like movies about superheroes? Why or why not?

Introduction:

Topic sentence 1:

Topic sentence 2:

Conclusion:
A Write a sentence about each picture using the words given.

1. think / wizard
   I think wizards are scary.

2. opinion / ice cream
   In my opinion, ice cream is delicious.

3. believe / castles
   I believe castles are magical places.

4. think / unicorns
   I think unicorns are amazing animals.
Choose the best conclusion for the topic.

Which Superman ability do you think is the best and why?

**Introduction:** I think flying is the best Superman ability.

**Topic sentence 1:**
First, I believe flying could make me feel free.

**Topic sentence 2:**
Second, I think flying can get me to places quickly.

**Conclusion:** B

A To conclude, I think flying is the best Superman ability.

B To sum up, flying is the best Superman ability to have in my opinion.

C In conclusion, super human strength is the very best Superman ability.

Write an introduction, two topic sentences and a conclusion.

How do you think Superman could help you if he was your friend?

**Introduction:** I believe Superman could help me if he was my friend.

**Topic sentence 1:** First, he could help me do my homework.

**Topic sentence 2:** Second, he could help me clean my room.

**Conclusion:** To conclude, I think Superman would be a very helpful friend to have.
### Writing Skill

#### Responding to online articles

Sometimes you may read an article online and want to respond to it by giving your own opinion. Explaining your opinion online is not like writing an essay. The writing is usually shorter and less formal. For example, you do not need to write an introduction. However, using a topic sentence and a good conclusion will help make your opinion stronger. You can also use a phrase that shows where your conclusion begins (see Unit 10) to make your response clearer.

In your response, you should use opinion words and phrases, such as those in Unit 9. You can also use words and phrases like *should, should not, must, must not, had better, had better not, need to* and *do not need to*. These show what you do and do not support.

Using reasons to support your opinion will make your response stronger. When you want to give several reasons, use words and phrases that show order (*for a start, first of all, first, second, also, next, last*) to mark where one reason stops and the next one starts.

When you are responding to online articles,
- respond to ideas and opinions, not people (*I disagree with the idea that ... not John is wrong!*).
- do not be rude (*You are so dumb!*).
- include your first name, age, city and country. You do not have to use your last name.
- do not just repeat what the article says.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
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<td>WRITING TASK</td>
<td>Write comments about an online article.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A How do people give their opinions online? Discuss your answers.

Before You Write

B Read the online article and comments.

Bullying a problem at school

Bullying is still a big problem at schools. More than 25% of students have been bullied at school in some way. More than 50% say they have seen somebody being bullied. Sometimes older students want other students to give them lunch money or other belongings. In some cases, bullies just pick on students who are quiet or different. These students say they feel scared at school, and it stops them from studying well.

Comments Post your comment

I think schools should do a lot more to stop bullies. For a start, there should be more teachers out in the schoolyard to stop bullies. Also, the school should call the parents of bullies to explain their behavior. Last, bullies should be punished more strongly. To sum up, schools should try harder to stop them.

Linda, 12, North Carolina, USA

Bullies are bad, so bad. They are mean.

Terry, 11, London, UK

Answer the questions and follow the instructions.

1 Who showed their opinion better, Linda or Terry? Why do you think so? Linda. Because she gave three reasons/opinions and used a conclusion to make her opinion stronger.

2 Underline the words Linda used to show order (first, second ...) and opinions. Circle her conclusion.
Responding to online articles

Explaining your opinion online is not like writing an essay. The writing is shorter and less formal. You do not need to write an introduction. However, using a topic sentence and a good conclusion make your opinion stronger.

Writing Practice

Complete the comments by using words from the box.

Second / All in all / I believe / I think / First of all / In my opinion / To sum up / Also / For a start

Homework horrors

Most students have never liked doing homework. However, there is some bad news on the way. Some schools are saying they want to give students more homework than before. They are doing this to prepare elementary school students better for high school.

In my opinion, students these days do not need more homework. They need less! For a start, too much homework is really unhealthy. It stops students from playing and exercising. Also, homework is boring and makes students feel sad and stressed. All in all, students already have too much homework.

Mark, 11, Bangkok, Thailand

I believe it is a good idea to give more homework to elementary school students. First of all, students play too much and waste their time. Second, being better prepared will help students not feel too stressed when they reach high school. To sum up, more homework will help students a lot.

Tina, 13, São Paulo, Brazil
Private tutors on the rise

More and more parents are paying for private tutors to help their children do well in school and pass important tests. The number of parents that use private tutors for their children has nearly doubled in the past three years. The most common subjects for private tutors to teach are math, science and English.

Comments Post your comment

I think having a private tutor helps students get better grades. For a start, they can further explain the lessons that are discussed in class. Also, students aren't afraid to ask tutors things that they don't understand. Last, students can have fun studying with a tutor. To conclude, having a private tutor is good thing.

Superman returns with a bang

The movie Superman Returns opened in movie theaters across the country last week. Theaters in many parts of the country reported record numbers of people going to see Superman in action. After the movie, one viewer said, “That is the best movie I have seen all year.” Another viewer, however, felt the movie was “boring and too long.”

Comments Post your comment

I think Superman Returns is the worst Superman movie of all. For a start, the acting is not very good. Also, the dialogue is terrible. Last, the special effects are not great. To sum up, the movie is awful.
Ask three classmates their opinions and take notes.

What do you think of getting more homework? Why?

Student 1:
I think getting more homework is not fair. Students will have little time to rest.

Student 2:
I think more homework is a good thing. It will help students learn.

Student 3:
I think getting more homework is a bad idea. Students won’t be able to do other things that interest them.

Write a paragraph about your classmates’ opinions from Activity F.

Some students think getting more homework is a bad thing. For example, one student said it is not fair because students will have little time to rest. Another said that if students get more homework, they won’t be able to do other things that interest them. However, one student thinks getting more homework is a good idea as it will help students learn.
Write your own comments.

These days many parents are sending their kids to English-speaking countries to learn English. These parents say it will be easier for their children to learn English in these countries. However, others say that students can learn to speak English just as well at home.

Comments

Most students do not like tests. Unfortunately, there is some bad news on the way. Some schools have decided to give students more tests than before. They say that this will help teachers know even more about their students and how well they are doing in class.

Comments
Let's study crocodiles!

Many people are scared of crocodiles. However, I think we should study real crocodiles.

First of all, we can learn about how crocodiles live. We can find out what they eat and how they hunt. In addition, we can learn how to stay safe if we see crocodiles. Therefore, they will not be so dangerous to people.

Second, some people think there were dinosaurs that looked like crocodiles. We can learn how these dinosaurs and crocodiles are the same and different. We might also learn why the dinosaurs disappeared.

In conclusion, I think we should study live crocodiles.
Why do you think dinosaurs are extinct? Discuss your answers.

Read the passage.

Do you think it would be good to have dinosaurs living today? Explain your opinion.

No dinosaurs today!

Many interesting However

Much people think dinosaurs are intresting. I do, too. But, I

don’t believe it would be good to have dinosaurs living today.

First of all,

I don’t think there would be enough space for dinosaurs.

They are really big creatures and they need a lot of room to

move around. And, they would use the space that other animal need.

Therefore, I believe many other animal could become extinct. But they are;

interesting creatures. Dinosaurs are really dangerous! They could damage

building and cars. Much eat meat, so, may try to eat people if he get hungry.

Dinosaurs died long ago. Even the gentle plant-eating dinosaurs would be danger.

They

It could step on people and crush them!

conclude

To conclusion, I don’t believe it would be good to have
dinosaurs living today.

Look at each correction and discuss why it was done.

[Answers will vary.]
Editing essays

It is important to edit your essays for mistakes. Make sure you:
- correct any spelling or grammar mistakes
- separate different paragraphs and include an introduction and conclusion
- remove sentences that don’t support the main idea
- use formal joining words and words that show order

What killed the dinosaurs?

I think the dinosaurs are killed by an asteroid.

I think the asteroid destroyed many things. It was very hot and burned much tree. Trees are very beautiful. And it made big waves that turned into floods. These things killed many dinosaurs. Second, the asteroid made a very big dark cloud. This stopped all the sunshine. Maybe the dinosaur babies were scared of the dark. The plants couldn’t grow for a long time, so the dinosaurs had no eat. So all the other dinosaurs died, too. In conclusion, I believe a big asteroid is the reason why the dinosaurs are extinct today.

I think the dinosaurs were killed by an asteroid.

First of all, I think the asteroid destroyed many things. It was very hot and burned many trees. In addition, it made big waves that turned into floods. These things killed many dinosaurs.

Second, the asteroid made a very big dark cloud. This stopped all the sunshine. The plants couldn’t grow for a long time, so the dinosaurs had no food. Therefore, all the other dinosaurs died, too.

In conclusion, I believe a big asteroid is the reason why the dinosaurs are extinct today.
Do you think dinosaurs are interesting? Why or why not?

Title → The dinosaurs

Introduction → Dinosaurs lived over 100 million years ago. I think they are interesting creatures.

Body 1 → First, dinosaurs had interesting bodies. Some dinosaurs had sharp horns and spikes sticking out of their bodies. To me, they are like weapons! Others had special bones that worked like armor.

Body 2 → Second, we don’t know why the dinosaurs disappeared. Scientists have many ideas, but they do not know exactly what happened. Whatever the reason, it would be interesting to find out what happened to the dinosaurs.

Conclusion → In conclusion, I believe that dinosaurs are interesting to study and talk about.

Brainstorm and plan your essay on a separate piece of paper. Use topic sentences that show your opinion, supported with details.
Listen and complete the plan.

Do you think it would be good to have your own dinosaur as a pet? Why or why not?

**Brainstorm**
- big and strong
- protect my house
- scary
- thieves
- when it sleeps
- what it likes to do
- learn a lot
- how to feed it
- not like other pets
- impress friends
- very special
- play together

**Plan**

**Title:** Dinosaur – A great pet

**Introduction:** People have many different kinds of pets. I think a dinosaur would be a great pet to have.

**Body paragraph 1:** Learn a lot

Topic sentence: First of all, I could learn a lot from a dinosaur pet.

Details: when it sleeps and eats, what it likes to do, how to feed it

**Body paragraph 2:** Protect my house

Topic sentence: Second, I think a dinosaur pet could protect my house.

Details: big and strong, looks scary, protect against thieves

**Conclusion:** To sum up, I can learn a lot from a dinosaur and it could protect my house. Therefore, I believe a dinosaur would be a really good pet.

Use the plan to write an essay on a separate piece of paper.
Edit and rewrite the essay.

Let’s study crocodiles!

Much people are scared of crocodiles. However, I think we should studied real crocodiles.

We can learn about how crocodile live. We cen find out what they eat and how they hunt. Maybe they eat pizza. And we can learn how to stay safe if we see a crocodiles. Therefore, they will not be so danger to people. Some people think there were dinosaurs that looks like crocodiles. We can learn how this dinosaurs and crocodiles are the same and different. We might also learn why the dinosaurs disappear. To conclusion, I think should study live crocodiles.
A. Complete the comment with opinion phrases and words that show order.

**Cirque in town**

Cirque du Soleil, the famous modern circus from Montreal in Canada, arrived in town this week. Their show, Dralion, is a combination of Eastern and Western art, music, dance and their amazing circus acts. Tickets are selling fast and people seem very excited to see the show.

> **Comments Post your comment**

In my opinion, Cirque du Soleil is the best circus act ever.

For a start, they don't use animals in their shows, and I like that because I believe it is cruel to use animals in shows for people.

In addition, I heard that the dancing and music are truly spectacular.

All in all, I think it is going to be the best act in town.

Melissa, 12, Cape Town, South Africa

B. Write your own comment.

**More trees for schools**

The government has decided to make schools prettier and healthier by planting more trees. Each school will receive young trees and seeds. Students and teachers at each school will help plant the trees. Later, students will need to water and take care of the trees.

> **Comments Post your comment**

In my opinion, planting more trees will benefit not just schools but the whole neighborhood. For a start, having more trees will improve our mood because people love nature. Also, more trees mean better air because trees will reduce air pollution. Last, trees will provide shade on sunny days. To sum up, I believe having more trees will make our lives better.
No cloning dinosaurs!

Some people want to clone dinosaurs, I don’t think it is a good idea.

Cloning is not a good thing to do. Many people say cloning is dangerous. In addition, if we clone dinosaurs and it works, maybe scientists will want to start cloning people, too. I don’t think dinosaurs can live in the world of today. I think dinosaurs would hurt people. In addition, they would hurt or kill many other animals, too.

To sum up, I don’t think it is a good idea to clone dinosaurs.
Listen to the passage and take notes. Then choose the best introduction.

First, not all circuses take good care of their animals. Many of them live in very small places. Sometimes they are tied up and can't move much. Circus trainers sometimes hurt the animals to make them do tricks. It's really awful.

Second, people buy tickets and the circuses stay in business. That means the circuses can keep hurting the animals. Circuses exist because people keep paying them money.

Introduction A. Going to the circus is a good way to spend your birthday.

Introduction B. Small animals should not be tied up or made to do tricks.

Introduction C. Circuses are bad for animals, and we are not helping animals when we go to the circus.

Listen and complete the brainstorm diagram.

How can learning English help children learn more about other cultures?

OK, I'm going to do a brainstorm diagram to help me. Here in the middle of the paper, I'm writing "Learn English - Learn about other cultures" because that is the writing topic.

OK, what do I have to do next? Oh yes, think of ways learning English helps to learn about other cultures ... Hmm, I can read more books, and watch TV programs. I can also talk with kids in other countries. So I'll write those things in the circles: "read more books," "watch TV programs" and "kids in other countries."

So what's next? Ah yes, HOW do these things help us to learn about other cultures? Hmm, let me see ... First is "read more books." Well, there are many books in English. So I'll write "many books in English." I can also say these books help us to learn about other places, so above "many books in English" I'll write "learn about other places." "Watch TV programs"? Well, there are many programs on TV in English, and I can also watch many news programs. So I'll write "international news" and above it "many programs

in English." "Kids in other countries"? If kids can use English to talk to each other, they can share information about their countries. So I'll write two things: "learn about their country" and "tell about my country."

My brainstorm diagram is finished! Now I will plan my essay.

Read the topic and look at the brainstorm diagram. Listen and complete the writing plan.

Write an essay about a very exciting place.

OK, I've finished my brainstorm diagram—lots of good ideas there. Now it's time to choose some things and make a good plan before I write.

What's first? Oh, yes, the title. That's pretty easy. I'll write: "A very exciting place." It's short, but it answers the topic question. Now I must choose two different things to write about. I have three different things to choose from, but I'll just take the two best ones. Hm, I think the roller coaster and Ferris wheel are my favorites, so I'll cross out "bumper cars" on the diagram.

Now I can write my introduction. I'll write: "In our city there is a really amazing amusement park [period]." Good. What else? "I've been there many times [period]. It is a very exciting place [period]." Let me check the last part again: "I've been there many times. It is a very exciting place."

Great! My first body paragraph is about the roller coaster—I'll write that down here next to "Body paragraph 1": "roller coaster." Now for my topic sentence ... OK, I'm writing down: "First of all [comma] the roller coaster is really incredible [period]." That's a good topic sentence, I think. Let me check it again: "First of all, the roller coaster is really incredible." What about my details? I need to describe the roller coaster, don't I? I'll write: "hear the sound of screams" and "feels just like flying" and "sit in the front—even scarier." There, those are really good details to go with my topic sentence about the roller coaster.

Next, my second body paragraph is about ... the Ferris wheel! So next to "Body paragraph 2" I'll write "Ferris wheel." I need a topic sentence. OK, I'll write: "Second [comma] there is the amazing Ferris wheel [period]." Good. Let me check it one more time: "Second, there is the amazing Ferris wheel." That's
my topic sentence, but what about some details to describe the Ferris wheel? Well, it “looks like a huge wheel”—uh, it “feels like an open elevator” and “you can see the whole city.” That’ll do it. Great! My essay plan is ready and it’s very organized!

OK, I’ll say “Therefore [comma] I believe a dinosaur would be a really good pet [period].” Check one more time: “Therefore, I believe a dinosaur would be a really good pet.”

Great! My essay plan is ready and it’s very organized!
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