

Paragraphs: Building Blocks of Narrative

Learning objective: To understand how paragraphs signal shifts in time, place, character, or topic within a narrative.

Use your imagination to build a scene featuring Max the monkey. You will draw four distinct sections, each representing a separate paragraph. Ensure your drawing shows a clear transition between these four moments.

Draw: Create a four-panel comic strip style layout on your page. In Panel 1, draw Max the monkey finding a map (Morning). In Panel 2, draw Max at a bridge (Afternoon). In Panel 3, draw Max solving a mathematical puzzle on a rock (Topic change). In Panel 4, draw Max celebrating with a treasure chest (Conclusion). Use fine-liner pens for detail and ensure the transition between panels feels like turning a page in a book.



Label words: Topic Sentence · Chronological Order · Shift in Focus · Setting · Character Action · Narrative Arc

Steps:

1. Explain why a writer might choose to start a new paragraph when a character enters a new location. Justify your answer.
2. Compare and contrast the function of a 'Topic Sentence' versus a concluding sentence within a descriptive

paragraph.

3. What might happen to the reader's understanding if a long, complex story was written as one single, giant paragraph? Explain your reasoning.

4. Step 1: Draw a box labelled 'Paragraph 1' showing Max the monkey discovering a mysterious, ancient map in the jungle.

5. Step 2: Draw a box labelled 'Paragraph 2' showing a shift in time to later that afternoon, where Max is now crossing a rickety bridge.

6. Step 3: Label the 'Topic Sentence' area in your first drawing box where you would describe the setting.