Unit 3 Developing the Paragraph  
Test B Examining Types of Paragraphs  

Below are nine paragraphs, each one developed by a different mode or pattern. Read each paragraph; then answer the questions.

A. (1) Do you have a flat bicycle tire? (2) If so, then follow these easy steps and you’ll be on your way in no time. (3) First, remove the flat tire from its frame. (4) Make sure all the air is out of the tire. (5) Next, separate the tire from its rim. (6) Carefully remove the tube from inside the tire. (7) Once the tube is removed, patch it or start with a new tube. (8) Then inspect the inside of the rim for thorns, sticks, pebbles, or anything else that might cause a puncture. (9) Now you’re ready to insert the tire back inside the rim. (10) After pushing the tire back into the rim, make sure the tube is completely inside the tire. (11) Inflate the new or patched tire. (12) After you check for bulges or irregularities in the tire, it should be ready for use.

1. Circle the type of development the writer of this paragraph has used.
   a. illustration
   b. narration
   c. description
   d. process
   e. definition
   f. comparison/contrast
   g. classification
   h. cause/effect
   i. persuasion

2. Transitional words or phrases are used in which sentences?
   a. (4), (6), (8), (11)
   b. (3), (5), (7), (10), (12)
   c. (1), (2)
B. (1) For two days, Davisville’s residents and businesses experienced a power outage. (2) On the hottest day of the year, people could not use their refrigerators, fans, or air conditioners. (3) During the blackout, small stores in the center of town used gas-fueled power generators to keep their produce cool and well-lit for customers. (4) The local grocery store sold its entire stock of candles and flashlights. (5) Meanwhile, most residents tried to keep cool as best they could. (6) Everywhere couples could be seen trying to read by natural light until all went dark. (7) Many families took refuge at the town pool until it closed at 8 P.M. (8) Workers used to the conveniences of fax machines and computers had to bide time, making calls to clients to explain the situation. (9) When the power went back on Thursday morning, people were eager to resume their daily activities.

1. Circle the type of development the writer of this paragraph has used.
   a. illustration
   b. narration
   c. description
   d. process
   e. definition
   f. comparison/contrast
   g. classification
   h. cause/effect
   i. persuasion

2. Transitional words or phrases are used in which sentence(s)?
   a. (2)
   b. (1), (4), (6)
   c. (3), (5), (9)
Chapter 5 Illustration

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(1) Some seemingly harmless substances can interfere with the way medicines work inside the body. (2) Take grapefruit juice, for example. (3) It disrupts the action of enzymes that break down drugs in the small intestine before they are absorbed into the bloodstream. (4) Therefore, taking a medication with grapefruit juice may cause the drug to enter the blood in dangerously high concentrations. (5) If this happens, not only is the drug less effective, but serious side effects can result. (6) Many common medications, including antidepressants, antihistamines, and cholesterol drugs, are negatively affected by grapefruit juice.

1. Give the number of the topic sentence in the paragraph above.__1____

2. How many examples does the writer use to develop the topic sentence? __1____

3. Select the transitional expression in the paragraph that introduces an illustration:
   a. of course
   b. for example
   c. therefore
   d. anyway

Chapter 6 Narration

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(1) One of the most terrible encounters between sharks and humans in modern times occurred during World War II. (2) On July 30, 1945, the Navy ship USS Indianapolis was in the Philippine Sea when it was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. (3) About 300 crewmembers were killed in the explosion. (4) Twelve minutes later, the Indianapolis sunk, tossing the 900 remaining sailors into the ocean. (5) Due to a misunderstanding, their ship was not reported missing. (6) Floating in the sea without lifeboats, the survivors began to be hounded by hundreds of sharks. (7) For four days, they had no protection against the predators. (8) Finally, on August 2, the men were spotted by the pilot of a patrol plane, who radioed for help. (9) Two days later, rescuers were able to find only 319 men alive.

1. Give the number of the topic sentence that tells the point of the story. __1____

2. How many transitional expressions in the paragraph above indicate time? __6__
Here are three plans for narrative paragraphs. The events in the plans are not in the correct chronological order. Each plan also contains one event that does not belong in the story. Number the events in the proper time sequence and cross out any irrelevant ones.

3. Physical education instructor James Naismith invented the game of basketball in 1891.

___3____ Thinking of how these ancient games required balls that went through holes, he rounded up two peach baskets and a soccer ball.

___1____ In December 1891, the director of the YMCA School where Naismith worked asked him to come up with a game that would occupy a class of rowdy students.

___5____ Then, he divided his class of eighteen into two teams of nine players each, taught them to throw the soccer ball into the peach basket.

___2____ Naismith, needing a game that could be played indoors in a relatively small space, remembered a description of Ollamalitzli and Ulama, Aztec and Mayan ball games he had read about in a magazine.

Chapter 7 Description

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(1) One look at my dog reveals that she has a mixed background. (2) Her long tapered nose is like those of German shepherds or collies. (3) On either side of her black head are small, folded-over ears like those of a terrier. (4) The fur around her neck is soft and thick, but on her back, it’s short like a dachshund’s. (5) All over her body, her white coat is covered with black spots. (6) Some are large, like a beagle’s, and some are very small and close together, like the spots on a Dalmatian. (7) Her tail is long and hairy, just like a golden retriever’s.

1. Give the number of the topic sentence that states the overall impression of the subject.

___1___

2. How are the details in this paragraph arranged?
   a. front to back
   b. near to far
   c. outside to inside
Following is a topic sentence followed by supporting details. Arrange this group of details according to space order, numbering them 1, 2, 3, and so on, as if you were preparing to write a descriptive paragraph.

3. Describe an old bike.

___4___ wide seat, adjustable in height
___1___ nearly bald front tire, with inner tube of soft rubber
___2___ scratched handlebars, with bell and rake levers
___5___ back tire nearly flat
___3___ pedals fixed to the chain wheel

Chapter 8 Process

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(1) You are sitting in a restaurant quietly having a meal when suddenly a man nearby starts choking on a piece of food lodged in his throat. (2) By using the Heimlich maneuver, you may be able to save this person’s life. (3) Your two hands are all you need to perform this lifesaving technique. (4) First, position yourself behind the choking person. (5) Then wrap your arms around the person’s midsection, being careful not to apply any pressure to the chest or stomach. (6) Once your arms are around the victim, clinch one hand into a fist and cup this fist in the other hand. (7) Now turn the fist so that the clenched thumb points toward the spot between the choker’s navel and midsection. (8) Finally, thrust inward at this spot using a quick, sharp motion. (9) If this motion does not dislodge the food, repeat it until the victim can breathe freely.

1. Give the number of the topic sentence in the paragraph above. __2___

2. How many steps are in the process? __5___

3. Which of the following is not a transitional expression in the paragraph above?
   a. now
   b. finally
   c. if
   d. then
Here are two plans for process paragraphs. The steps for the plans are not in the correct chronological order. Each plan also contains an irrelevant detail that is not part of the process. Number the steps in the proper time sequence and cross out the irrelevant detail.

1. Because turtles are cold-blooded animals, they hibernate during the winter.

   ___2____ After finding the right place, they dig their winter home, bury themselves in the mud, and fall into a deep sleep.

   ___1____ As the weather turns cold, turtles begin to seek a spot in the mud near a pond to spend the winter.

   ______ Contrary to popular opinion, turtles make charming pets.

   ___4____ With the onset of spring, the ice on the pond melts and the thawing mud awakens these buried creatures to new life.

   ___3____ Throughout the winter, their metabolism remains low.

Chapter 9 Definition

Identify each of the following definitions as a synonym definition, class definition, or definition by negation. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. A yak is an ox that is large and long-haired, and it is found wild or domesticated in Tibet.

   a. synonym definition
   b. class definition
   c. definition by negation

2. Multitasking means doing more than two things at the same time.

   a. synonym definition
   b. class definition
   c. definition by negation

3. An essay is not just a padded paragraph but a short composition that develops more ideas about a topic.

   a. synonym definition
   b. class definition
   c. definition by negation
Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(1) Ambivalence can be defined as a feeling or attitude that is both positive and negative at the same time. (2) For instance, a young woman might feel ambivalent about motherhood. (3) She may want to have a child yet fear that motherhood will use up energy she would like to spend on her career. (4) Or a Michigan man who is offered a slightly higher salary in Arizona might be ambivalent about moving. (5) He and his family don’t want to leave their friends, their schools, and a city they love. (6) On the other hand, they are tempted by a larger income and by Arizona’s warm climate and clean air. (7) Finally, two people may have ambivalent feelings about each other, loving and disliking each other at the same time. (8) It hurts to be together, and it hurts to be apart; neither situation makes them happy. (9) As these examples show, the double tug of ambivalence can complicate decision making.

4. Give the number of the topic sentence in the paragraph above. __1____

5. How many examples does the writer use to develop the topic sentence? ___3_____
4. Which one of the following transitional expressions indicating contrast or comparison does not appear in the paragraph?
   a. however
   b. in contrast
   c. besides
   d. on the other hand

Chapter 11 Classification

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

Traditional musical instruments can be divided, according to how they produce sounds, into three categories: stringed, wind, and percussion. Stringed instruments produce music through the vibration of taut strings that are plucked, strummed, or bowed. The harp, the guitar, the banjo, and the violin are examples of stringed instruments. The second category contains the wind instruments, which are usually sounded by the player’s breath. This category includes the clarinet, the tuba, the trumpet, and so on. The third category, percussion instruments, makes sounds when they are struck. Obvious examples of percussion instruments are drums, gongs, and cymbals. Surprisingly, the piano is also considered a percussion instrument because, when the player touches a key, a small hammer inside the piano strikes a string.

1. On what basis does the writer classify musical instruments? How they produce sounds

2. How many categories are there? 3

3. List the categories: stringed instruments, wind instruments, percussion instruments

4. Which of the following is not a transitional expression indicating classification?
   a. obvious examples
   b. the second category
   c. the third category
Chapter 12 Cause and Effect

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(1) As several school districts have found, moving the start time for high schools to later in the morning has several beneficial effects. (2) One result is better school attendance. (3) When seven Minneapolis high schools pushed back their start times, attendance in all grades improved, and academic performance improved slightly, too. (4) Another positive effect is happier students and parents. (5) When students get more sleep, they tend to be in a better mood, which improves relationships with their family members. (6) A third important outcome is an improvement in safety. (7) When unsupervised teens get out of school later in the afternoon, they have less time to get into trouble before adults get home. (8) Plus, they are less prone to fatigue-related car accidents on their way to school in the morning.

1. Give the number of the topic sentence in the paragraph above. __1____

2. How many causes or effects does the writer present? ____3_____

3. Which of the following is not a transitional expression that indicates cause or effect?
   a. when
   b. one result
   c. another positive effect
   d. a third important outcome

On the blanks, write the cause and the effect contained in each of the following statements.

4. I am planning to enroll in medical school because I want to earn my living by helping people.
   Cause: I want to learn my living by helping people
   Effect: I am planning to enroll in medical school

5. The lack of an effective warning system led to the high death toll from the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.
   Cause: lack of an effective warning system
   Effect: high death toll from tsunami
Chapter 13 Persuasion
Each of the following sentences tells what you are trying to persuade someone to do. Beneath each sentence are four reasons that attempt to convince this person that he or she should take this particular course of action. Circle the letter of the reason that seems irrelevant, illogical, or untrue.

1. If you wanted to persuade someone to join a particular club on campus, you might say that
   a. everyone else is joining.
   b. membership would add a valuable extracurricular activity to his or her résumé.
   c. joining would provide opportunities to learn more about a topic of interest.
   d. club meetings will give him or her a chance to meet people and make new friends.

2. If you wanted to persuade someone to donate money to a certain charity, you might say that
   a. the charity helps people who truly need it.
   b. the organization manages its money wisely.
   c. donating will provide him or her with a tax deduction.
   d. the organization’s headquarters are in a fashionable part of town

Chapter 14 The Process of Writing an Essay
The paragraphs of the following essay have been scrambled so that they are out of order. Read them and then answer the questions that follow.

Evaluating a Web Site

___3___ (1) Next, find out more about the person or people who created the web site. (2) Scroll down to the bottom of the page to look for the author’s name, or click on links such as “About Us,” “Biography,” or “Who Am I?” (3) These links will usually lead to more information about the individual or organization responsible. (4) Look for details about the author’s credentials. (5) Is he or she an expert, with education, training, or experience in the subject matter? (6) If no information about the site’s creator is provided or if that person offers no proof of authority, the information may not be reliable. (7) Remember that anyone can create an Internet web site; therefore, researchers should verify that the person who posted the information knows what he or she is talking about.
(8) First, begin by examining the URL, or Internet address, of the website. (9) In particular, examine the last three letters of the address, which reveal the domain of a site as an educational institution, government agency, nonprofit organization, or commercial company. (10) Usually, the first three types of domains, which end in .edu, .gov, .mil, .us, and .org, tend to be reliable sources of information. (11) The primary purpose of sites that end in .com, on the other hand, may be to persuade viewers to buy something rather than provide them with accurate, unbiased information. (12) A .com website could also be someone's personal website, which may or may not offer reliable information.

(13) Using this procedure helps researchers get their facts straight. (14) Mining the Internet for information will almost always produce gold, but finding that gold often requires sifting through and discarding worthless rocks.

(15) Finally, in addition to finding out more about the site's creator, look for a few other indicators of quality information. (16) The date the page was last updated, for example, should be fairly recent. (17) In addition, note whether the author mentions the sources of his or her information. (18) Sources that are documented with footnotes or links, especially if they refer to scholarly or academic journals and books, are usually more reputable. (19) Also, don’t forget to notice the overall look of the site. (20) Is the page crowded with advertisements? (21) If so, its main purpose may be selling rather than informing. (22) Is the text filled with grammatical or spelling errors? (23) These kinds of mistakes may indicate untrustworthy information.

(24) The Internet offers millions of websites; however, they’re not all created equal. (25) Some of them contain accurate information, and some contain only opinions, inaccurate information, or information that’s been manipulated in some way. (26) Therefore, people who use a search engine to look for websites about a particular topic need to know how to distinguish a credible website from a dud. (27) To evaluate the trustworthiness of a website, online researchers can use a three-step procedure.

1. On the blanks provided before each paragraph, number the paragraphs in the order they should appear in the essay.

2. Give the number of the sentence that indicates the thesis statement of this essay. __27____

3. Give the number of the topic sentence in the second body paragraph. ___8____

4. List three transitional expressions that show the relationships between the three body paragraphs.
   __first______        ______next_________        ______finally______
Chapter 16 The Introduction, the Conclusion, and the Title

Read each of the following essay introductions. Circle the letter of the method the writer used to begin the composition.

1. “Music is the speech of angels,” wrote Thomas Carlyle over a hundred years ago. Today, growing numbers of scientists might agree. Soothing music has been shown to lower the blood pressure of heart patients, reduce pain after surgery, and help premature babies gain weight. In fact, research studies show that music has the power to heal and to work medical miracles.

   This essay begins with a

   a. general idea that is narrowed to a specific thesis statement.
   b. contradiction.
   c. direct quotation.

2. Almost all of us have heard of the Amish, the religious sect that separates itself from the world and rejects modern conveniences and advanced technology. We imagine people wearing hand-sewn clothing and living in homes without refrigerators, dishwashers, televisions, and telephones. However, the Amish have been buying and using cell phones for years. They also use in-line skates, power-operated grass cutters, and gas grills for barbecuing. The Amish employ such conveniences when they do not interfere with family life. Cell phones, for example, are kept outside the home and are used for business purposes only. The Amish people look at every modern-day convenience and accept it only if it works to bring together, not drive apart, members of the family and community.

   —Adapted from Howard Rheingold, “Look Who’s Talking,” Wired

   This essay begins with a(n)

   a. single-sentence thesis statement.
   b. illustration.
   c. contradiction.

Chapter 17 Summarizing, Quoting, and Avoiding Plagiarism

Circle the letter of the correct answer for each of the following questions.

1. Failing to give proper credit to an author whose words or ideas you have used is called

   a. summarizing.
   b. plagiarism.
   c. paraphrasing.
2. Which of the following is *not* a characteristic of a good summary?

   a. It includes the author, title, and source of the original.
   b. It’s shorter than the original.
   c. It includes your opinions about the ideas in the original source.

3. A sentence that provides someone else’s exact words is called a(n)

   a. paraphrase.
   b. direct quotation.
   c. indirect quotation.

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**Chapter 18 Strengthening an Essay with Research**

Circle the letter of the correct answer for each of the following questions.

1. Seeking answers to questions in sources outside yourself is called

   a. using MLA style.
   b. doing research.
   c. documentation.

2. Which of the following is *not* something a correct source citation should do?

   a. It should indicate that the material is from an outside source.
   b. It should give your reader enough information to find the original source.
   c. It should give the name of the library where you found the source.

3. According to MLA guidelines, where should a source citation appear in an essay?

   a. inside the essay in parentheses and at the end in a Works Cited list
   b. at the bottom of the page only
   c. at the end of the essay on an Endnotes page
Chapter 20 Revising for Consistency and Parallelism

Choose the correct words to insert in the following sentences. Then circle the letter that indicates your choice.

1. As the basketball team scored the winning point, the fans ________________, ________________, and ________________ their feet.
   - a. screamed, waved, stamp
   - b. screamed, waved, stamped
   - c. screamed, waved, stamped

2. We _______________ the train to Omaha but _______________ home.
   - a. took, fly
   - b. take, flew
   - c. took, flew

3. Each of the nominees prepared ______________ acceptance speech—just in case.
   - a. their
   - b. its
   - c. his or her

4. Otis likes ______________ to work rather than ______________ the bus.
   - a. walking, taking
   - b. walking, take
   - c. walk, take

5. _______________ on the sales staff must have ______________ presentation ready by Friday.
   - a. Everyone, their
   - b. Everyone, his or her
   - c. Everyone, your
Chapter 21 Revising for Sentence Variety

Circle the letter of the correctly punctuated sentence.

1. a. Who has the jumper cables for the car?
   b. Many people asked if they could watch the film crew shoot the scene?
   c. Janice shouted at the man in front of her!

2. a. Several of us object to, your lighting that cigar.
   b. Stunned by the news, the crowd stood in silence.
   c. Raking all the leaves into a neat pile Cynthia admired her work.

3. a. Beyond the iron gate a well-kept vineyard stretched for miles.
   b. Sadly, no one remembers who made this Log Cabin quilt.
   c. At the flea market Fred bought many gifts for his family.

4. a. Theresa read the lease carefully, before she signed it.
   b. Harvey, a man, of great ambition cannot be trusted.
   c. The telephone that had been ringing for twenty minutes finally became silent.

5. a. Undecided about which of the prints he liked best, Joe bought all four of them.
   b. Sleeping on an airplane, is sometimes difficult.
   c. Harold always finishes the ice cream, and puts the empty container in the freezer.
Chapter 22 Revising for Language Awareness

Choose the letter of the sentence that uses concise, fresh, and exact language.

1. a. Some women cooked food while others took orders.
   b. The older women cooked while the younger women took orders.
   c. The older women fried eggs and bacon on the grill, while their granddaughters took orders.

2. a. There were crumbs all over the keyboard.
   b. There were cookie crumbs on the computer keyboard.
   c. There were cookie crumbs stuck in the keys of the computer keyboard.

3. a. We boarded the shuttle that would take us to Charleston, South Carolina.
   b. We boarded the shuttle, stowed our belongings in the overhead compartment, and prepared for our flight to Charleston, South Carolina.
   c. We got on the plane and flew to South Carolina.

4. a. On Thursday, nurses at Beth Israel Hospital met with administrators to request more vacation time.
   b. The nurses asked the hospital administrators for more vacation time.
   c. The nurses asked their bosses for more time off.

5. a. On Saturdays, Anna runs errands and cooks food for dinner.
   b. On Saturdays, Ann has a routine: She buys fish and vegetables at the local market, brings everything home, and cooks fish stew for dinner that night.
   c. On Saturdays, Anna shops and cooks.