

The Writing Academy Lesson Plans

Block # 1 - Lesson # 11

Concept: Difference Between Linear and Webbed Writing

Learning Style	Auditory Visual Tactile The learning style addressed by the activity will be in bold-faced letters.
Rationale	Students need to recognize the difference between linear & webbed writing when reading paragraphs.
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Hand out the activity sheet(s) on the next page (there are two to choose from).2) Have students work in groups for the first activity sheet. They read the paragraphs and then circle either 'linear' or 'webbed'.3) Have the students work individually for the second activity sheet. Each student reads the paragraphs and then circles either 'linear' or 'webbed'.

Linear or Webbed

A good writer develops ideas and adds depth to his/her writing. You can recognize idea development by testing your own writing to determine if it is linear (lists ideas) or webbed (has idea development because each sentence refers to the sentence directly before it). Read the following examples and decide if each one is linear or webbed. Circle your choice.

1. My friends and I went to the mall. We ate at the food court. Then we shopped for tennis shoes. We took in a movie, and then we ate at the food court again!

Linear

Webbed

2. My dog and I have had so many adventures together. One time as he stretched out on the bank, I floated in my inner tube in a lake near our house. I went to sleep and fell off my inner tube. Although I was trying to swim, I panicked and was sinking. Just as I was going under the water, for what seemed like the tenth time, I felt something grab my shirt just above my shoulder. My head above water, my dog pulled me through the water by my shirt. When we got to shore, neither of us had the energy to move.

Linear

Webbed

3. My favorite place to go is the woods in the back of my Uncle's house. It feels like I am ten million miles, and years, away from reality. I love the smells. Each critter I see looks beautiful to me, even the ugly ones. I just listen to the sounds as I shut my eyes. I climb trees, and roll down hills. I throw stones at imaginary foes. I run for the sake of running. I am always disappointed when it is time to return to reality.

Linear

Webbed

4. I love stretching out on my back in fresh mowed grass. As I smell the grass, I gaze up into the sky. The clouds breeze by and change shapes. Sometimes I see faces and sometimes I see animals. The breeze, the clouds, and the feel of the grass under my back make me feel like time really does not matter.

Linear

Webbed

5. My best friend and I went to a carnival. We rode rides. We ate cotton candy. My friend went in the haunted house, but I waited outside. I threw balls at a stack of bottles, and won a prize. We had a blast!

Linear

Webbed

Linear or Webbed

A good writer develops ideas and adds depth to his/her writing. You can recognize idea development by testing your own writing to determine if it is linear (lists ideas) or webbed (has idea development because each sentence refers to the sentence directly before it). Read the following examples and decide if each one is linear or webbed. Circle your choice.

1. My cousin came to visit us. He travelled from England. He had his Rolls Royce shipped from England to the United States so that he could take us riding in it. As we rode around town, I felt like a million bucks! One reason I felt that way was because the car was so fancy. It had paneling on the inside, and cushy seats. I sunk into my soft seat, and mused that my cousin was driving behind a wheel on the right hand side of the vehicle! He said all cars in England have the steering wheel on the right hand side.

Linear

Webbed

2. We went to my Grandmother's for a week last summer. My cousins joined us there and we had the time of our lives! My most unforgettable part was playing in the hay. I had never played in hay before. We would jump off a ledge of the barn into the hay. Once we hit the hay, we would scramble to dig a tunnel and hide. We would hear the adults around us, but we would stay as still as we could, even though the hay itched. As we hid, and itched, the adults would say they wondered where we were and then would finally walk off. Looking back on it now, I think they knew we were hiding in that old hay stack, and thought it was funny that we were hiding - and itching!

Linear

Webbed

3. We went to my Grandmother's for a week last summer. My cousins joined us there and we had the time of our lives! We swam in her creek. We rode horses, and milked cows. We played in the old hay stack near the barn. We gathered eggs from under her chickens, which was really tricky. In the evening, we would all gather on her porch and sing old songs. What a great week!

Linear

Webbed

4. My mother is a great role model. She thinks of others before herself. Her laughter resounds around our house, daily. She works hard to give all of us kids everything we need. She advises us. She plays with us. She takes us to church.

Linear

Webbed

5. The day was a beautiful one. The sun beamed in the sky. The warmth from the sun felt good on my face. I just stopped and held my head back and let my face bathe in it. My face tingled. The tingling was a summer time feeling that I loved.

Linear

Webbed