

The Writing Academy Lesson Plans

Block # 1 - Lesson # 5

Concept: Linear Writing

Learning Style	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; padding: 5px;"> Auditory Visual Tactile </div> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">The learning style addressed by the activity will be in bold-faced letters.</p>
Rationale	<p>Students need to be aware of linear, or “listing”, writing so that they will know, feel, and see the difference between linear and webbed writing (writing with depth). At your students’ age, you do not want them writing linear paragraphs, you want them to web all of their ideas, in order to get idea development into their papers.</p>
Activity	<p>Open with a “magnifying” activity. Use as the main topic: “Meals we eat.” Have the students discuss different meals, and then choose three to discuss further. For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Breakfast 2) Lunch 3) Dinner <p>Choose one: Breakfast</p> <p>Then have the students tell you all about breakfast. For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Scrambled eggs 2) Toast 3) Orange Juice <p>Say to the students, “Before we choose one of these main ideas, I want to show you some different ways to elaborate.” (see next page)</p>

Ask for four students to volunteer to come to the front of the room. You will make the fifth person. Explain to the students that you will be the main idea, and that the other four students will be your supporting details. All five of you will stand in a line, side by side, facing the class.



Each dot represents one person. You, the teacher, are the first one in line. Tell the students, "I will be the main idea, and the other four students will be my supporting details." Tell the remaining students to remain still and quiet while you tell the volunteers what to say.

Tell the volunteers to say the following sentences. If you prefer to create your own, that is fine. However, the sample sentences are here if you would like to use them.

Main Idea: I had a great breakfast this morning.

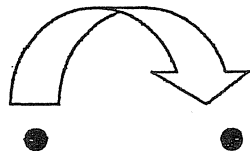
Supporting Detail #1: I ate scrambled eggs.

Supporting Detail #2: I also had toast.

Supporting Detail #3: My bacon was really good.

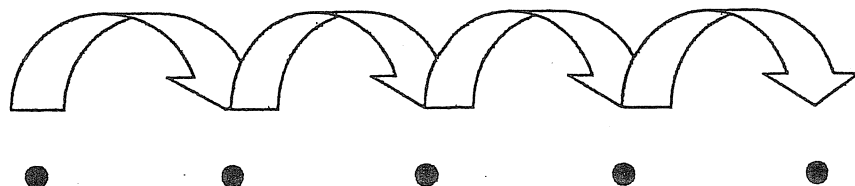
Supporting Detail #4: Finally, I had orange juice.

Then spread out and get back into a straight line. Holding the ball of yarn, say the main idea sentence. Then, pass the ball of yarn to the next student in line. Remember to keep hold of your portion of the yarn.



That student will then say his/her sentence, and then pass the ball of yarn to the next student in line. Make sure that each student continues to hold on to his/her part of the yarn.

Continue this process through all five people; thus, creating a LINEAR paragraph.



Breakfast

eggs

toast

bacon

orange juice