

Name: _____

Date Started: _____ Date Completed: _____ Score: _____

Learning Activity Sheet

Using Signal Words in Writing Effective Paragraphs

I. Read each item carefully. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. What do signal words help to establish in a sentence?
A. flow of ideas
B. comparing of ideas
C. enumerating of ideas
D. all of the above
2. For example, namely, like, and that is are examples of signal words showing:
A. cause and effect
B. comparison and contrast
C. process/procedure
D. general-specific pattern
3. Which of the following words does not show general to particular pattern of development?
A. in fact
B. contrary
C. namely
D. such as
4. Which of the following does the main sentence of the paragraph identify?
A. opinion
B. general topic
C. identical topic
D. supporting detail
5. Which of the following describes a good expository paragraph?
A. prepares the reader
B. presents relevant data
C. summarizes the information
D. all of the above

II. Write a short composition with unified and cohesive paragraphs. You may choose below a topic you are interested in. For guidance, refer to the rubric for grading.

Topic 1: What Is a Virtuous Man?

Topic 2: My Greatest Achievement

Topic 3: The Beauty of East Asia

Point Value	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Topic Sentence	Interesting, original topic sentence, reflecting thought and insight, focused on one interesting main idea	Clearly stated topic sentence; presents one main idea	Acceptable topic sentence; presents one idea	Missing, invalid, or inappropriate topic sentence; the main idea is missing
Supporting Details	Interesting, concrete, and descriptive examples and details with explanations that relate to the topic	Examples and details relate to the topic, and some explanations are included.	Sufficient number of examples and details that relate to the topic	Insufficient, vague, or undeveloped examples
Organization and Transition	Thoughtful, logical progression of supporting examples; mature transitions between ideas	Details are arranged in logical progression; Appropriate transition	Acceptable arrangement of examples; transitions may be weak	No discernable pattern of organization; unrelated details; no transitions
Style	Appropriate tone, distinctive voice; pleasing variety in sentence structure; vivid diction; precise word choices	Appropriate tone; clear sentences with varied structures; effective diction	Acceptable tone; some variety in sentence structure; Adequate diction and word choices	Inconsistent or inappropriate tone; awkward, unclear, or incomplete sentences; bland diction; poor word choice
Mechanics	Consistent standard English usage, spelling, and punctuation; no errors	Some errors in usage, spelling, or punctuation, but none are major	A few errors in usage, spelling, or punctuation	Distracting errors in usage, spelling, or punctuation