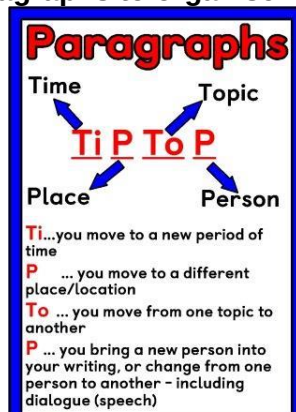


Years 5 and 6 Writing Conference Checklist

The Basics

Paragraphs to organise ideas



Capital Letters

Adam is going to Spain on Tuesday.

Full stops

The dog slept.

Question marks

What are you doing?

Exclamation marks

Come here, now!

Ellipsis

Commas for lists

He wanted boots, a football, socks and a shirt for Christmas.

Apostrophes for omission and contraction

Dave's car wasn't working so he couldn't take it to Mike's party.

Correct verb forms

past/present/future

Conjunctions

Co-ordinating

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

Subordinating

although, because, now that, until, while

Correlative

Both... and, not only... but also, either... or

Causal

therefore, consequently, as a result, since

Sentence starters

	Slowly, the car spun around. Carefully, she made her way through the hall.
	At the bottom of the stairs, he stopped. Next to the slide, the swings creaked.
	At midnight, the rain started. By 7 o'clock they were all exhausted.
	Skiping downstairs, Maisy tripped on a toy. Feeling intense pain, the explorer trudged on.
	Stunned, the shark retreated. Amazed by the sight, the clown fell backwards.
	Cool as ice, the robber smashed the alarm. Like a steam train, he hurtled down the path.
	Although they were tired, the birds still sang. In order to save his own life, he cut the rope.
	Full of confusion, Tom ran off. Not caring at all, the toddler kicked the door.

Passive and modal verbs

Modal:

Can, could, may, might, must, ought, shall, should, may, will, would

Passive voice:

The boy was attached by the snake.
Instead of
The snake attacked the boy.

Use a wide range of clause structures

Vary the structure of your sentences

Jimmy was good at football because his dad taught him lots of tricks.

Because his dad taught him lots of tricks, Jimmy was good at football.

Last night, at the leisure centre, Jimmy was good at football because his dad – a football coach – taught him lots of tricks.

Adverbs, prepositions and expanded noun phrases

Adverbs:

beautifully, enthusiastically, finally, carefully, cautiously, viciously, ferociously

Prepositions:

Down, through, next to, under, over, between, in spite of, as for, along with, in

Prepositional phrases:

Down by the stream...
Under the bridge...

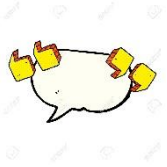
Expanded noun phrase:

Around the corner, the long-bearded old man...

Inverted commas

Commas for clarity

Parenthesis

These enclose direct speech of quotations: "Come on Fido!" his owner called. She was quoted in the newspaper: "I love socks!" 	An introductory phrase or clause: When Lisa visited the garden, she saw... Working in pairs (like brackets): A flower, like a sock, can be stripy. Direct address: Let's eat Grandma vs Let's eat, Grandma With adjectives: The green, sparkly, blue-eyed fish 	Adds extra information to a sentence: Bart, the oldest child in the Simpsons family, was caught fighting with his classmates – Ralph and Milhouse – at the local skate-park (behind Springfield Elementary).   
Semi-colons	Dashes	Colons
Connect sections that are closely related: May was warm; it was pleasant. It was freezing; he was grateful for his coat Before certain adverbs: However, therefore, consequently, nevertheless June was hot; however, some cities were rainy. In a long list: The shopping was packed: free range eggs for mum; tomatoes, beans and cheese for dad; and lots of chocolate for me. 	Extra information at the end of a sentence: It was a long wait – the longest wait I've ever had. Extra information in the middle of a sentence: The usually trusty ship – which was already running late – had encountered another problem. 	Emphasis: She thinks about one thing: socks. Explanations: They know her secret: she is obsessed with socks. Lists: Her socks have the following patterns: stripy, spotty and swirly. Quotes: She was quoted in the newspaper: "I love socks!" 
Hyphens	Synonyms and antonyms	Joined handwriting
Used to join two words or to separate parts of words: The celebrated big-hair society re-formed after twenty-four years for a get-together about their beard- and hair-loss issued. 		Keep it cursive! 