



Writing instructions in sequence

This house painter wants to paint the trim on the roof. However, she has a little problem—she left out an important step. What is it?



She forgot to bring the bucket of paint with her when she climbed the ladder.

In order to do anything—paint a house or brush your teeth—you have to perform a number of steps in the right **sequence**, or order.

A. Here is a list of steps for making papier-mâché. They are not in the correct sequence. Put them in the correct sequence on the lines below.

1. Dip the strips of newspaper into the mixture.
2. Apply the strips to the form.
3. Stir until the mixture is smooth, sticky, and wet.
4. Mix two parts water with one part flour.

First: _____

Next: _____

Third: _____

Finally: _____

B. On the next page, write instructions for doing one of the following: blowing up a balloon; giving a dog a bath; making an ice-cream soda.

How to _____

First: _____

Next: _____

Third: _____

Finally: _____

C. Read the following instructions.

How Not to Paint the Floor

1. Begin painting at the doorway and work your way into the room.
2. Paint around the furniture that is too heavy to move.
3. After painting one third of the room, sweep and wash the rest of the floor.
4. After you've painted yourself into a corner, walk across the floor and leave the room.

Now rewrite these instructions. Tell how one should really go about painting a floor. Use **sequence words** like *first*, *next*, *then*, and *last*.



You can probably do at least one of the activities below without thinking twice. But can you write instructions on how to do it? Instructions have to be in a clear, step-by-step sequence. Write your instructions on a separate sheet of paper.

building a paper airplane
doing a cartwheel

playing hopscotch
diving from a diving board

Instructions should be written in sequence. Sequence words like first, next, then, and last help show the order.

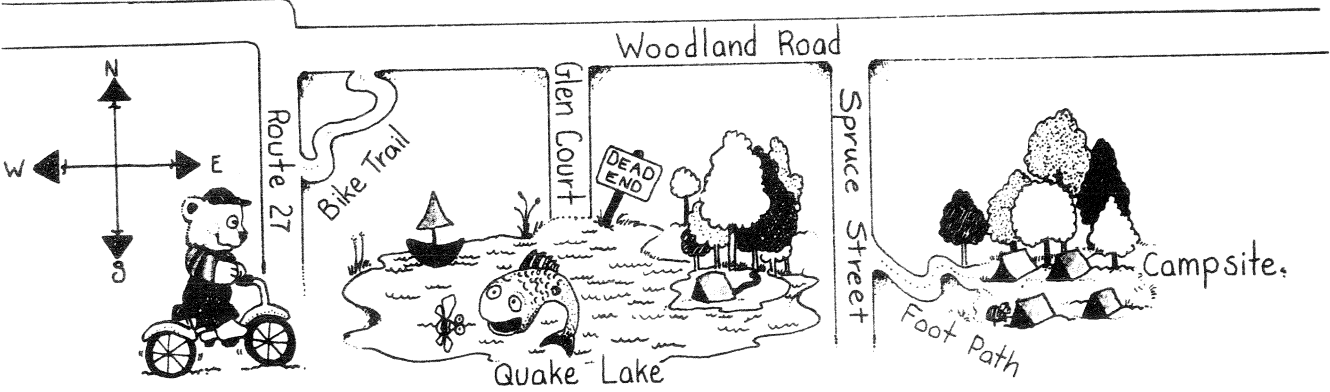
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Writing directions in sequence

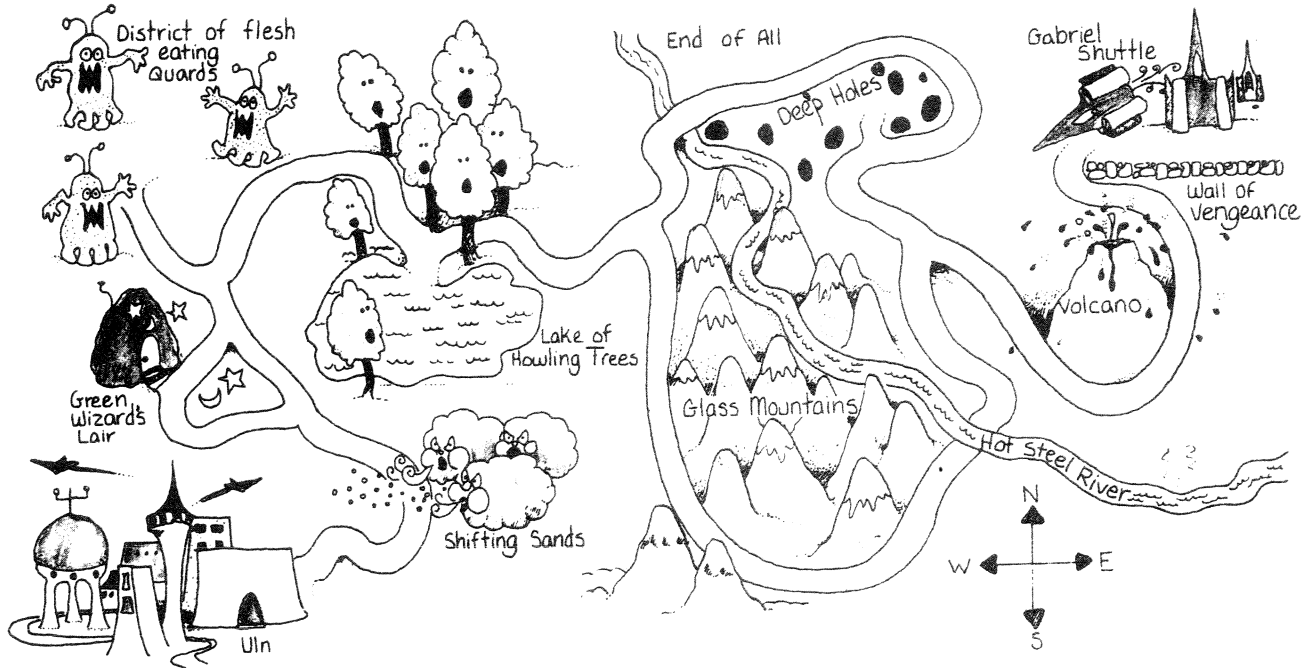


Did you ever get lost because someone gave you mixed-up directions? Good directions have to be given in clear, step-by-step sequence.

- A. Look at the map. Using complete sentences, write directions on the lines below that tell Kermit how he can bicycle to his friends' campsite. Use sequence words and clear **directional words** like north or east, left or right.



B. Holly Miyamoto was a prisoner at Uln on Radex 23, a planet 23 million light-years from Earth. She escaped and made her way to the Gabriel Space Shuttle. Look at the map below. Then, using complete sentences, write a description of her escape route on the lines that follow. Be sure to write your description in sequence. Begin with Uln. Use the compass whenever possible.



Write  **On**

What happened to Holly when she passed the Shifting Sands, the Green Wizard's Lair, or the Lake of Howling Trees? On another sheet of paper, write a story about some of Holly's adventures as she escaped from Uln. Write your story in sequence and use some of the directions you have written for part **B**. Your story should be at least ten sentences long, but it can be longer.

Always write directions in sequence.

3

Writing a recipe

Meet Julia Chicken, world-famous cook and television star. She's preparing one of her very special dishes.



Perhaps Julia should be a bit more careful about following the recipe directions in sequence.

A. Read the following recipe for preparing pumpkin seeds. Number the steps in the correct sequence.

- _____ Bake them for five minutes at 500 degrees.
- _____ Cut open a pumpkin.
- _____ Pull the seeds out of the pumpkin.
- _____ Let them cool.
- _____ Rinse the pulp off the seeds with cold water.
- _____ Spread the seeds on a cookie sheet and sprinkle salt on them.
- _____ Eat!

B. How clever are you in the kitchen? On the next page is a list of ingredients and equipment for a good, old-fashioned stew. Write your own recipe for the stew. Add a few more ingredients if you wish. Give your stew a name.

Ingredients

- 1/2 tank car oil
- 2 toad's eyes
- 1/4 teaspoon of ant's eggs
- ooze from a rotten eggplant
- milkweed juice
- 4 or 5 wasp pods

Equipment

- 1 dirty gym sock
- 1 wash bucket
- 1 table tennis paddle

- C. Pretend you are making a salad for a visitor from outer space. He wants to take the recipe back to Mars with him. On the following lines, write the directions for making your favorite salad. If you don't like salad, write the recipe for a dessert.



If you've finished all the activities in this lesson, you should be a pretty good cook. Prepare a dream dinner. On another sheet of paper, write a menu for your perfect meal. Include a recipe for one dream dish.

Write recipes in sequence.

4

Writing jokes

What makes a joke funny? A joke is a story that is told or written in careful sequence. It usually leads up to a surprising, funny ending called the **punch line**. Read the comic strip below. Pay attention to its sequence.



- A. Can you tell the joke on page 24 entirely in words? Write a paragraph about it. Be sure to write the joke in the correct sequence. Using sequence words like *then* and *finally* can help keep the order clear.

- B. If you put the following sentences in sequence, you will get another joke. Number the sentences in sequence. Then write them in a paragraph.

_____ She takes a sip and screams, "This coffee tastes like mud."

_____ A woman goes into a diner and orders a cup of coffee.

_____ The waiter says, "Well, it was ground this morning."

_____ Hey, did you ever hear this one?



Write your own favorite joke. A funny punch line has to come as a surprise, so make sure your joke leads up to it carefully.

Jokes should be written or told in sequence.

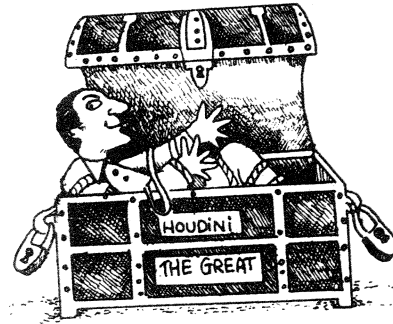
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Writing an outline in sequence

Outlining is a good way to keep your information and paragraphs in sequence when you are writing. If you outline, you can plot the sequence before you write. This makes the job of writing much easier. For example, if you were going to write about Harry Houdini, the great magician, you might set up an outline in the following sequence.

Harry Houdini

- I. Childhood
 - A. Life at home
 - B. Life as a boy in the circus
- II. Adulthood
 - A. As a trapeze artist
 - B. As a magician



- A. Below is some information about the Abominable Snowman. List each fact under the proper heading in the outline that follows.

Lives in Mount Everest and other Himalaya mountains
 Hairy body and face like person
 In 1951, a British explorer took pictures of "snowman" tracks
 The beast may simply be a large bear
 Walks erect on thick legs
 When bear tracks in snow melt, they may look like huge footprints
 Sometimes seen near villages
 Several expeditions have searched for the beast

The Abominable Snowman

- I. What is it?
 - A. Appearance

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

- B. Where it is found

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

II. Does it really exist?

A. Expeditions

1. _____

2. _____

B. Explanations

1. _____

2. _____

B. Make an outline of what happened to you last year. The four seasons can serve as main headings. The events that occurred will be subheads.

I. Winter

A. _____

B. _____

II. Spring

A. _____

B. _____

III. Summer

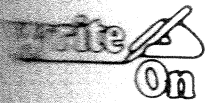
A. _____

B. _____

IV. Autumn

A. _____

B. _____



Use your outline about last year's events to write about your year. Use the headings and subheadings for topic sentences—you will need to rewrite them as complete sentences. Then write detail sentences that tell about each topic sentence.

Use an outline to plan your writing in sequence.

Revising

lesson

6

Writing with more interesting verbs

A good writer chooses verbs carefully. To express an idea well, a writer should use an **exact verb**.

- A. Think of one or more verbs that could be used instead of *walked* in the following sentence to express the ideas below. The first one has been done to get you started.

The girl walked down the street.

1. happiness skipped, pranced
2. haste _____
3. clumsiness _____
4. pain _____
5. tiredness _____

- B. Write more exact verbs for the verb *said* in the following sentence to express the ideas below.

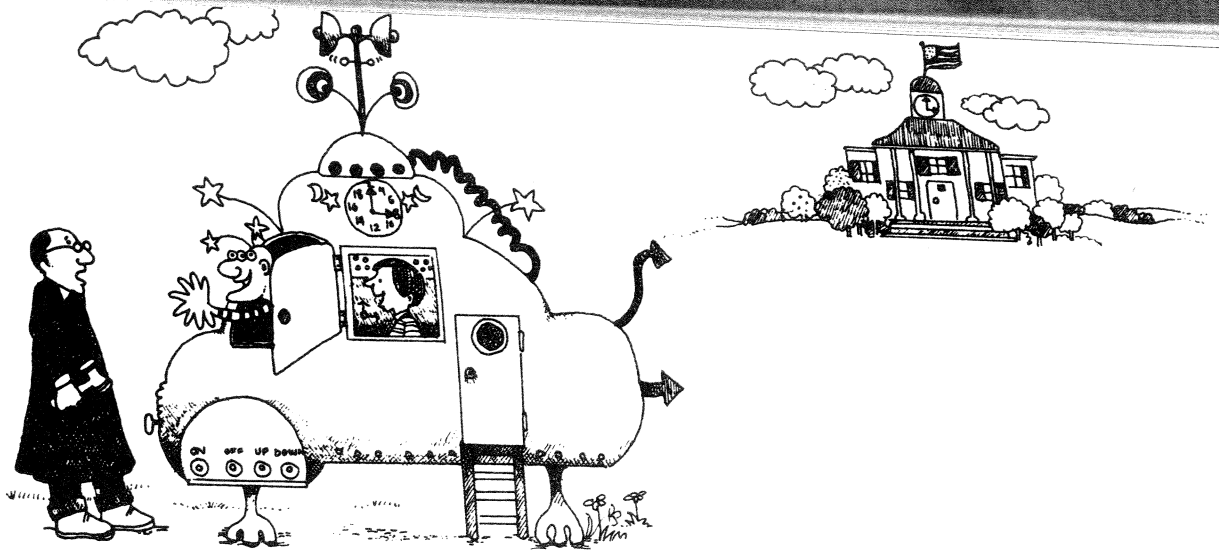
The boy said, "I did it."

1. loudness _____
2. sadness _____
3. softness _____
4. happiness _____
5. confusion _____

Your writing will be more interesting and more accurate if you use one exact verb instead of a general verb helped by an adverb. For example:

Butch, Slim, and I walked slowly past Creely's dump.

Butch, Slim, and I trudged past Creely's dump.



C. Think of one exact verb to replace the underlined verb and adverb in the sentences below.

1. "Such a dull summer," Butch said unhappily. _____

2. Just then Lem Moss's time machine came noisily into sight. _____

3. Its silver and glass discs shone brightly in the sun. _____

4. In a second we were moving quickly after it. _____

5. The time machine landed on the courthouse lawn; Judge Kick was looking carefully at the cockpit. _____

6. The cockpit slid open, and Lem Moss and a strange creature came quickly out of the machine. _____

7. "I'm just back from the twenty-third century," Lem said loudly, "and do I have news for you!" _____



Look back over the directions and recipes you wrote for this unit. Pay special attention to the verbs and verb phrases that you used. Can any of them be sharper or more exact? Choose one paragraph or essay to improve. On another sheet of paper, rewrite the paragraph or essay using more exact verbs.

Use exact verbs to make your writing more interesting and accurate.

Proofreading

lesson
7

Using capital letters correctly

Proper nouns name particular people and places. Here are some proper nouns from this unit. Notice that each important word of a proper noun begins with a capital letter.

Kermit
Julia Chicken

Woodland Road
Lake of Howling Trees

Gabriel Space Shuttle
Mount Everest

- A. Fill in the blanks below with proper nouns. Be sure to begin each proper noun with a capital letter.

My favorite TV star: _____

The street where I live: _____

The nicest person I know: _____

A country I'd like to see: _____

A body of water: _____

The capital of my state: _____

Names of particular days, months, businesses, and buildings also use capital letters.

Monday
Labor Day

March
Nystrom's Market

Tower of Pisa
Lafayette School

- B. Proofread and correct these sentences. Put in capital letters where they are needed.

1. Did kermit ride his bike into quake lake?
2. Holly miyamoto flew to saturn last thursday.
3. I watch julia chicken every tuesday.
4. An explorer named black got lost in the painted desert.
5. We went to detroit on friday, december 1.
6. The northfield school is closed on columbus day.

7. The tower of pizza is on poplar street in newburgh.
8. Isn't jason's mart having a sale for election day?
- C. Copy the paragraph below. Replace each underlined word group with a proper noun.

On one day, a girl went shopping at a store in a city. Then she met a friend at a restaurant on a street. After lunch, the girl and her friend went to a museum.



Begin each important word of a proper noun with a capital letter. Proper nouns include names of particular people, places, days, businesses, and buildings.
