

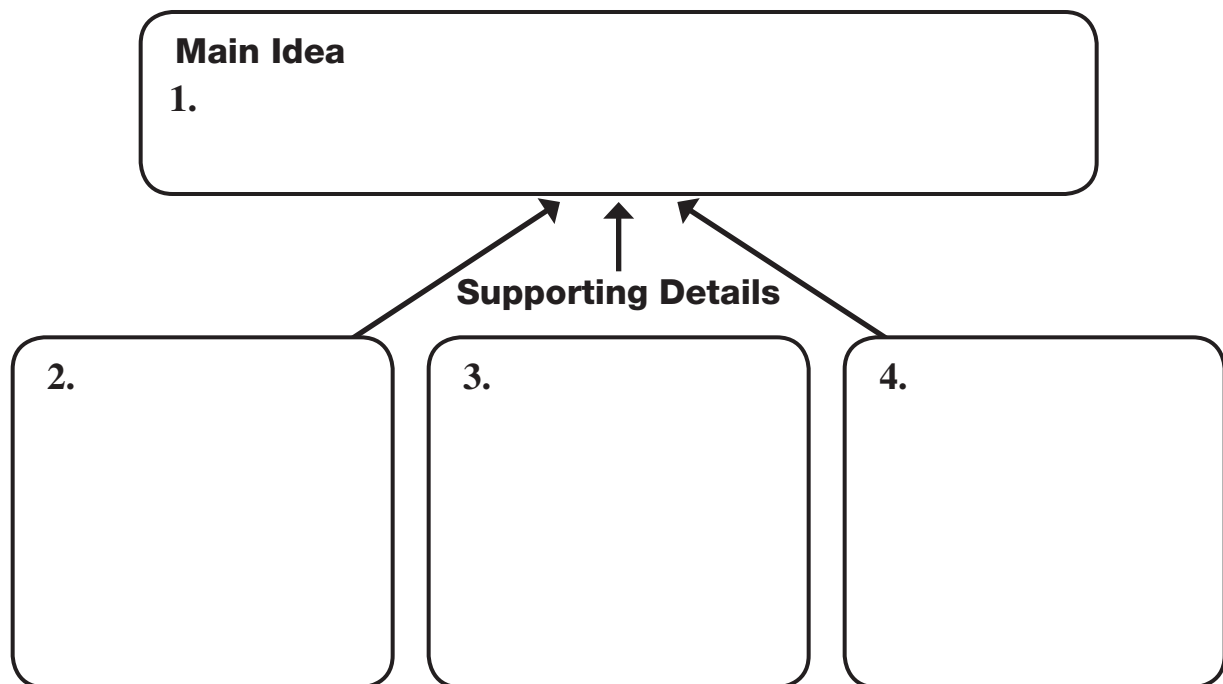
Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea from a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Directions Read the following passage. Complete the diagram by stating the main idea and three supporting details. Then answer the question below the diagram.

The President has a difficult job, but at least there are people to help the President along the way. These special people are called the Cabinet. The President gets to choose the members of the Cabinet, but the members of the United States Senate must approve them.
Each member of the Cabinet represents

a department of the government. Some examples of these departments are Education, Homeland Security, and Transportation. The Cabinet meets with the President to talk about issues that affect their departments. In these meetings, the President gets good advice on what decisions to make.



5. What is a one-sentence summary of this passage?



Home Activity Your child used a graphic organizer to identify the main idea and supporting details of a passage. Work with your child to identify the main idea and supporting details for individual paragraphs in a magazine or newspaper article about government. Challenge him or her to summarize the entire article.

Name _____

Writing • Argument/Persuasive Essay

Key Features of Argument/Persuasive Essay

- states the writer's opinion, or claim
- tries to influence the reader's opinion by developing an argument
- provides evidence that is supported by facts and examples
- provides a conclusion that is related to the opinion
- urges the reader to take action

Exercise: It's Good for You!

Have you ever had one of those days when you just sit around? How do you feel at the end of a day like that? Most people feel groggy and restless after spending a day doing nothing. That's because they didn't get enough exercise. We need exercise to feel good and stay healthy. Everyone should get plenty of exercise every day.

Exercising is important for a strong, healthy body. When you work your muscles, they become stronger. And remember that your heart is a muscle too! Running, dancing, playing sports, and many other activities give your heart a workout, making it stronger and more efficient.

Exercise also just makes you feel better. Getting out and moving even a

little bit every day makes a person more alert. When you burn up some energy on the playground, it's easier to sit in the classroom and pay attention to the teacher. Best of all, you can avoid that groggy, uncomfortable feeling that comes after a day of doing nothing.

In conclusion, every "body" really should make a commitment to exercise. It's not that hard to do. Any time you get up and move your body, you're exercising. You can do jumping jacks or play baseball. You can play tag or jump rope. Even if you're just dancing around your room to your favorite music, you're exercising. So let's all get up and move!

1. Reread the selection. Write one sentence telling what the writer wants the reader to believe.

2. In paragraphs 2 and 3, underline the supporting facts.

Vocabulary

Directions Choose a word from the box that best completes each sentence. Write the word on the line to the left.

- _____ 1. A _____ person might look in a mirror all the time.
- _____ 2. The President has much _____.
- _____ 3. He behaved _____ as he took the oath.
- _____ 4. The _____ is an important document.
- _____ 5. Many people voted, so the election was a _____ success.

Check the Words You Know

____ **Constitution**
 ____ **howling**
 ____ **humble**
 ____ **politics**
 ____ **responsibility**
 ____ **solemnly**
 ____ **vain**

Directions Choose the word from the box that best matches each numbered clue below. Write the letters of the word on the blanks. After you are finished, the boxed letters will spell a secret word.

6. seriously
7. government work
8. the act of taking care of someone
9. having too much pride
10. not proud

6. _____ _____

x

e

7. _____ _____

u

t

8. _____ _____

9. _____

10. _____ _____

Write a Speech

Pretend you have just been elected President of the United States. On a separate sheet of paper, write a short speech you would give to the public. In the course of explaining how you will approach your new job, use as many vocabulary words as you can.



Name _____

Plural Possessive Nouns

A **plural possessive noun** shows that something is owned or shared by more than one person, place, or thing.

- Add an apostrophe (') to a plural noun that ends in *-s*, *-es*, or *-ies*.
our parks' popularity animals' rights
- Add an apostrophe (') and *-s* to a plural noun that does not end in *-s*, *-es*, or *-ies*.
the deer's feeding ground the children's vacation

Directions Write the possessive form of each underlined plural noun.

1. highways rest stops _____
2. teeth cavities _____
3. states laws _____
4. forests trees _____
5. raccoons paws _____
6. geese feathers _____
7. men jackets _____
8. rivers banks _____

Directions Choose a plural possessive noun to complete each sentence. Write the word on the line.

9. Our national (parks, parks') landscapes are known around the world.

10. (Automobiles, Automobiles') exhausts can harm the wilderness.

11. The (wolfs', wolves') fangs are very sharp.

12. Park (rangers', ranger's) jobs are rewarding.



Home Activity Your child learned about plural possessive nouns. Ask your child to explain the difference between singular and plural possessive nouns. Encourage your child to give examples using the words *boys*, *girls*, and *children*.

Words with *ear, ir, our, ur*

Spelling Words

return	courage	surface	purpose	first
turkey	heard	early	turtle	birthday
journal	courtesy	nourish	purse	furniture
search	curtain	burrow	hamburger	survey

Missing Words Write two list words to complete each sentence correctly.

Baby Teddy is having his (1)____ (2)____ party today.

1. _____ 2. _____

We bought new (3)____ for my bedroom and a new (4)____ for the window.

3. _____ 4. _____

It takes (5)____ for a box (6)____ to cross a road.

5. _____ 6. _____

Mom had to (7)____ through her (8)____ to find a tissue.

7. _____ 8. _____

The (9)____ of (10)____ is to put others at ease.

9. _____ 10. _____

Like other birds, the (11)____ wakes (12)____.

11. _____ 12. _____

Analogies Write list words to complete each analogy.

13. *Bread* is to *sandwich* as *bun* is to ____.

13. _____

14. *Blanket* is to *warm* as *food* is to ____.

14. _____

15. *Eye* is to *saw* as *ear* is to ____.

15. _____

16. *Go* is to *come* as *leave* is to ____.

16. _____

17. *Read* is to *novel* as *write* is to ____.

17. _____

18. *Draw* is to *map* as *measure* is to ____.

18. _____

19. *Down* is to *dive* as *up* is to ____.

19. _____

20. *Bird* is to *nest* as *rabbit* is to ____.

20. _____



Scoring Rubric: Argument/Persuasive Essay

Writing Traits	4	3	2	1
Focus/Ideas	Opinion, or claim, clearly stated; argument, facts, and details support the opinion	Opinion, or claim, is well stated; argument, facts, and details mostly support the opinion	Opinion, or claim, is not completely clear; argument not well developed and many facts and details do not support the opinion	No clear opinion, or claim; no argument and; few or no related facts and details
Organization	Ideas are in logical order, using transitions to link opinion and evidence	Ideas are in mostly logical order, using several transitions to link opinion and evidence	Order of ideas is unclear; transitions are weak or missing	No logical order or transitions to link opinion and evidence
Voice	Voice is lively and interesting	Voice is generally engaging	Voice is sometimes dull	Voice is flat and dull
Word Choice	Uses strong, descriptive words	Uses some strong, descriptive words	Few strong or descriptive words	Poor word choice
Sentences	No fragments, run-on sentences, or comma splices	One or two fragments, run-on sentences, or comma splices	Several fragments, run-on sentences, or comma splices	Many fragments, run-on sentences, or comma splices
Conventions	Few or no errors; correct use of plural possessive nouns	Few or no errors; correct use of plural possessive nouns	Many errors	Many serious errors

Vocabulary • Unknown Words

- **Dictionaries** and **glossaries** provide alphabetical lists of words and their meanings.
- Sometimes looking at the words around an unknown word can't help you figure out the word's meaning. If this happens, use a dictionary or glossary to find the meaning.

Directions Read the following letter. Then answer the questions below. Use your glossary or a dictionary to help you with unknown words.

Dear Mr. President,
I became interested in politics after studying the Constitution in school. I hope this doesn't sound vain, but I think I'm a pretty smart student, and I believe that my ideas are sound. I think that the government should take on the responsibility of making sure that every person in the country knows how

to read and write. Then everyone would be able to communicate better and solve problems easier. I solemnly believe this. Please look at the plan I've written on the following pages.

Sincerely,
Benita

1. Look up the word *Constitution* in your glossary. What part of speech is it?

2. What is the meaning of the word *communicate*?

3. Why does Benita want to avoid sounding *vain*?

4. The word *sound* can mean "vibrations that can be detected by hearing organs" or "sensible, reasonable." Which meaning is used in this letter? How do you know?



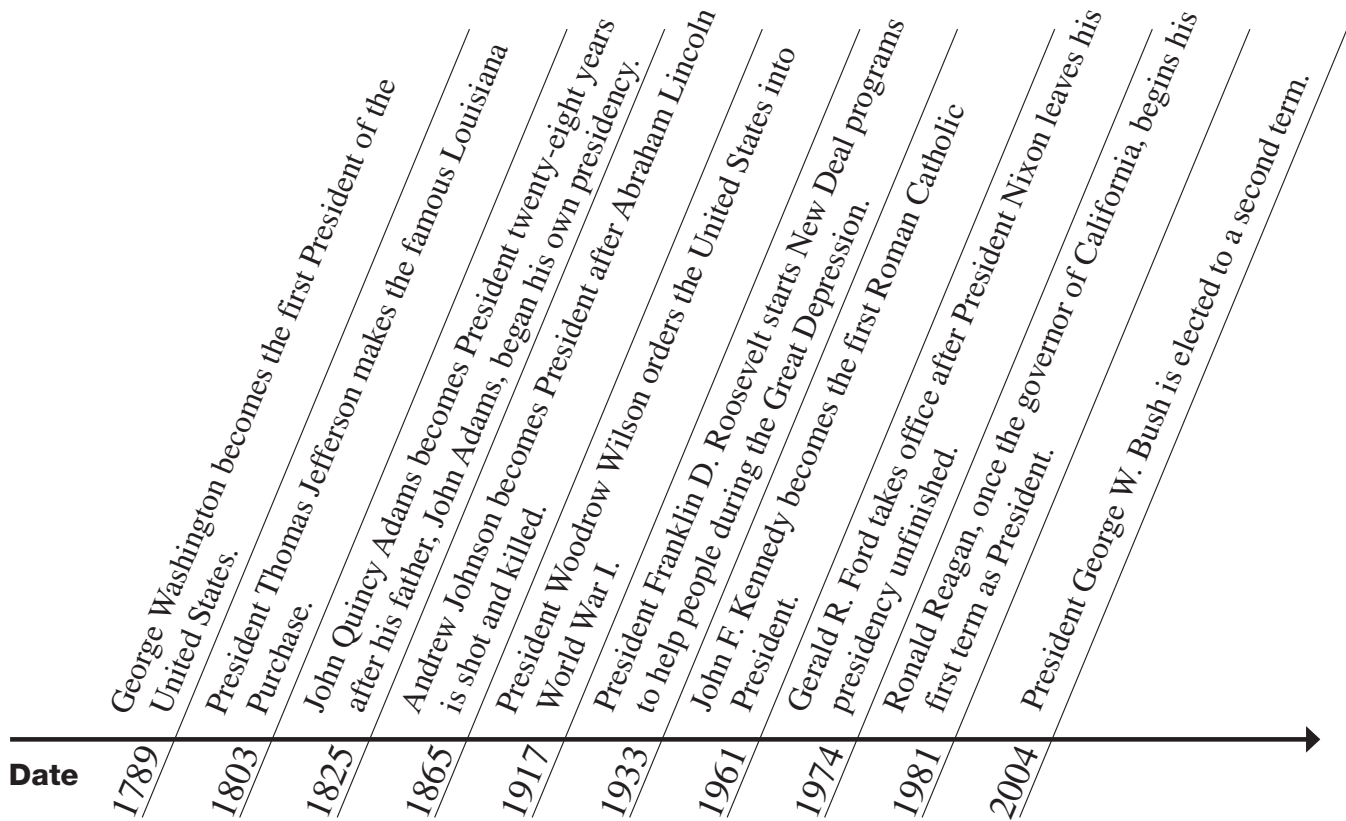
Home Activity Your child used a glossary to identify the definitions of unknown words. Read a short story together. Create a glossary for the story by writing down all the unknown words and using the definitions from a dictionary.

Time Line

A **time line** is a chart that shows a sequence of events. A time line uses a bar divided into periods of time to show the order of events.

Directions Study the time line below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Presidential Time Line



1. What information does this time line provide?

2. How are the dates organized on this time line?

3. According to the time line, what event happened most recently?

Name _____

4. When did President Jefferson make the Louisiana Purchase?

5. What happened in 1974 before Gerald R. Ford became President?

6. What happened for the first time in 1961?

7. How many years passed between the start of George Washington's presidency and President Wilson's decision to enter World War I?

8. Why did Andrew Johnson become President?

9. In what year did John Quincy Adams's father become President? How do you know?

10. How might you use this time line as you do research for a report on American Presidents?



Home Activity Your child learned about time lines and used a time line to answer questions. Together, read an encyclopedia entry about an American President. Write key facts about the President's life and career in a time line. Encourage your child to illustrate the time line with pictures, where appropriate.

Words with *ear, ir, our, ur*

Proofread a Journal Entry Samantha made mistakes as she wrote her journal entry. Circle six misspelled words and write them correctly. Insert quotation marks where they are needed.

Today was my birthday! I was up very erly. Usually I run right down to breakfast, but today I was as slow as a tertle. As I walked into the kitchen, I herd my family yell, Surprise!

My family gave me a new purse and this brand new jurnal! My friends took me out for a hambinger at lunch. For dinner, we had my favorite—turkey! The only present I have to retearn is a shirt that is too small.

I'll write more tomorrow,
Samantha

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |

Proofread Words Circle the word that is spelled correctly. Write it on the line.

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 7. courage | corage | curage | 7. _____ |
| 8. searface | sirface | surface | 8. _____ |
| 9. curtesy | cirtesy | courtesy | 9. _____ |
| 10. survey | sourvey | sirvey | 10. _____ |
| 11. bourrow | birrow | burrow | 11. _____ |
| 12. curtain | courtain | curtin | 12. _____ |
| 13. perse | purse | pirse | 13. _____ |
| 14. pirpose | purpase | purpose | 14. _____ |

Spelling Words

return
courage
surface
purpose
first
turkey
heard
early
turtle
birthday

journal
courtesy
nourish
purse
furniture
search
curtain
burrow
hamburger
survey

Frequently Misspelled Words

heard
our
are



Home Activity Your child identified misspelled words with *ear, ir, our, and ur*. Ask your child to write *courtesy* and make up a journal entry about a time he or she was courteous.

Plural Possessive Nouns

Directions Read the passage. Then read each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

The White House

(1) Presidents families live in the White House. (2) Their families lives are different from ours. (3) Servants take care of all the residents' needs. (4) Families bring their pets' to the White House. (5) The children pets have a great life.

- 1 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

A Change *Presidents* to **Presidents'**.
B Change *Presidents* to **President's**.
C Change *Presidents* to **President**.
D Make no change.

- 2 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 2?

A Change *families* to **family's**.
B Change *families* to **family**.
C Change *families* to **families'**.
D Make no change.

- 3 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

A Change *residents'* to **resident's**.
B Change *residents'* to **residents**.
C Change *needs* to **need**.
D Make no change.

- 4 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 4?

A Change *pets'* to **pets**.
B Change *pets'* to **pet**.
C Change *pets'* to **pet's**.
D Make no change.

- 5 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 5?

A Change *children* to **child**.
B Change *children* to **children's**.
C Change *children* to **childrens**.
D Make no change.



Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on plural possessive nouns. Have your child prepare flash cards with a plural noun on one side and its possessive form on the other. Quiz him or her using the flash cards.