



Linking Ideas in a Paragraph

Adverbial phrases tell you how, when, where or how often something happens. They help your writing flow smoothly, which is called cohesion.

In ten minutes, we're going to the park. We're having lunch after that.

The adverbial phrases help these two sentences to flow together by telling you how the two events are linked.

1 Circle all the adverbial phrases in the box below.

over there

twice a year

my cat

near the wall

after a while

winter weather

this ketchup

his horse

every time

the other day

very slowly

2 Underline the adverbial phrase in each pair of sentences.

I can play the flute. Last year, I learnt to play the recorder.

The chest was unlocked. Without a sound, Susie opened the lid.

It's a hot day. You should put suncream on after lunch.

I do after-school activities four times a week. It's exhausting but fun.

There are one hundred tadpoles in the school pond. We're studying them.

The bus arrived. Thomas ate his breakfast ridiculously fast.

There was so much to do. Tina didn't stop painting until midnight.

My bedroom was a mess. I hid all the toys and books under the bed.

- 3 Use the timetable for an activity day to put the missing words in the box into the paragraph.

At 10 am in the garden in two separate teams
First Yesterday Finally after lunch

9 am	10 am	Midday	1 pm	3 pm
Registration and warm-up games	Obstacle course races	Lunch in the garden	Building a tree house	Making rafts and racing them in groups

Yesterday....., I went to an amazing activity day. we had to register, and then we played some warm-up games., we raced each other through a great obstacle course. We ate, and we built a big tree house. we made rafts and raced them

- 4 Rewrite each pair of sentences, adding the adverbial phrase in the box.

I love football. I go to training. on Mondays

I love football. On Mondays, I go to training.

I am making a kite. I will try it out. after tea

The witch looked around. She crept up the stairs. very quietly

It is Christmas Eve. It will be Christmas Day. tomorrow morning

If an adverbial phrase is at the start of a sentence, you put a comma after it.

"I can link ideas together using adverbial phrases."



Linking Paragraphs



You can also use **adverbs** and other **adverbial phrases** to link paragraphs together smoothly.

It was four o'clock, and old Mr Coxton was sleeping soundly in his chair. **Nearby**, Mrs Smith was weeding her garden. She sang as she went along.

- 1 Read each of these paragraph beginnings. Draw a line to show whether the underlined word or phrase shows a change in time, place or number.

Later, the nurse looked at my ankle. She said it was broken in two places.

time

Thirdly, I started to screw the different pieces together, one at a time.

place

At Grandad's house, Clare set up the chessboard and made two cups of tea.

number

- 2 Draw lines to show whether each word or phrase would link paragraphs by time, place or number.

in Ian's room

before breakfast

at the garage

this week

PLACE

fourthly

secondly

NUMBER

above that

next to him

TIME

behind me

thirdly

every day

at 5 pm

firstly

3 Use one of the words or phrases from the middle row to link these paragraphs.

In the morning, George went to buy the ingredients for his lemon cake. It took over an hour.

....., he started mixing and measuring.

Secondly, I covered the exercise book in colourful patterned paper.

....., I used some sticky plastic to make the book waterproof and keep it looking neat.

That afternoon

Under the table

Last week

Thirdly

My brother Jeremy loves doing science experiments — even in the house!

....., he mixed lots of Mum's hair products together. It exploded everywhere!

I was really enjoying the spaghetti Dad had made for tea, but I kept dropping bits accidentally.

....., our cat was eating the scraps, but he couldn't manage the spaghetti!

4 Write the first two sentences of the next paragraph in each story, starting with an adverbial phrase. Underline your adverbial phrase once you've written it.

PC Collins started searching the alleyway first. He couldn't find any of the missing jewels. PC Gregson suggested they look elsewhere.

.....

I sat down at the table, trying desperately not to look at the fridge. I knew I shouldn't open it, but the temptation to peek inside was too strong.

.....

"I can use adverbial phrases to link paragraphs."

