

Name: _____ Date: _____

Develop a Paragraph

What is a paragraph?

A paragraph is an organized block of sentences that develops one part of a narrative or expository piece of writing. A well-developed paragraph consists of an introductory or topic sentence, two or more sentences that further explain the introduction, and a concluding sentence. This concluding sentence should also guide the reader to the ideas in the next paragraph.

Below is a collection of sentences that will form the opening paragraph of a speech on cooking. Cut out the sentence strips and arrange the sentences in the order of topic sentence, details, and a concluding sentence.

To find a recipe or meal idea, you might try a cookbook, ask someone you know, or watch a cooking show on TV.

By following these steps, you will not only cook a fine meal but will also avoid making a big mess!

Where would you go for information?

Suppose you want to cook a meal for friends, but do not know how to do it.

Once you find the recipe, there are important steps any cook should know before turning on a stove or an oven.

Once you arrange the sentences into a paragraph, write out the paragraph, remembering to indent the opening sentence. Compare your paragraph to a partner's. Together with your partner, write the opening sentence of what might be the next paragraph of this speech. CHALLENGE: Write your own paragraph. Now write the sentences on separate strips of paper, and challenge your partner to arrange them correctly. Does your partner come up with a better arrangement? Discuss what you discover.