

# Application and Reasoning

## Step 2: Paragraphs in Fiction

### National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 6: Linking ideas across paragraphs using a wider range of cohesive devices: repetition of a word or phrase, grammatical connections [for example, the use of adverbials such as on the other hand, in contrast, or as a consequence], and ellipsis.

### Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Application)

**Developing** Include an appropriate sentence opener to mark a change in either time, location, character or theme. Key words included for support.

**Expected** Include an appropriate sentence opener at the beginning of a new paragraph to emphasise a specified change of time, location, character or theme.

**Greater Depth** Include an appropriate sentence opener at the beginning of a new paragraph to emphasise an unspecified change of time, location, character or theme.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Reasoning)

**Developing** Explain whether the author is correct in not starting a new paragraph. Includes a single-clause sentence.

**Expected** Explain whether the author is correct in not starting a new paragraph. Includes a two-clause sentence.

**Greater Depth** Explain whether a new paragraph is needed. Includes extended sentences.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Application)

**Developing** Write one sentence to begin a new paragraph that shows a change in time, location, character or theme.

**Expected** Write two sentences (one at the end of the paragraph and one at the start of a new paragraph) to clearly demonstrate a change in time, location, character or theme.

**Greater Depth** Write two sentences (one at the end of the paragraph and one at the start of a new paragraph) to clearly demonstrate a change in time, location, character or theme. Include a specific cohesive device.

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## Paragraphs in Fiction

The surface of the water was rough, masking the calm water that lay underneath. As sunlight cut through the crystal clear water, it reflected off metallic objects that lay half-buried on the sea bed and illuminated the tiny, delicate fish that darted through towers of bright coral.

Frankie was at home here. Under the surface, deep in the sea, his mind could rest. He could forget about unpaid bills and failed friendships. While he was here in the water, nothing else mattered.

He had dived at least two hundred times in the last two years, taking people to the best spots around the island and pointing out all that this paradise had to offer. In all those dives, however, he had never once caught sight of a manta ray. He had read so much about them and their behaviour, yet he had never seen one swimming in the wild.

All this was about to change in a very spectacular way.

1a. Add a sentence opener to the first sentence of paragraph four so that it marks a change in time. Use the word bank below to help you. Remember to punctuate your sentence correctly.

today

soon

tomorrow

before long



A

2a. The author adds the following sentence to the end of paragraph one:

It was a beautiful sight to see.

They do not start a new paragraph. Is their choice correct? Why?



R

3a. Write the first sentence of the next paragraph to show a change in location.



A

## Paragraphs in Fiction

**“I must not look down!”**

The visitors who had gone before Toby had told him that it was easier to just look forward and do it. They had warned him not to look down. Looking down would just make it scarier. Too late. He had looked down and he hadn't liked the look of what he had seen.

One hundred and thirty metres below him, the ground seemed to be trying to talk Toby out of it as well.

The guide began to count Toby down. He really wasn't ready for this. He really didn't want to die. His mum would kill him if he died! His heart thumped wildly in his chest. He tried to recall why he had thought that this would be an exciting thing to do. It was now or never.

**1b. Add a sentence opener to the first sentence of paragraph four so that it marks a change in character. Use the word bank below to help you. Remember to punctuate your sentence correctly.**

excitedly

calmly

impatiently

firmly



A

**2b. The author adds the following sentence after writing paragraph three:**

**Back up on the cliff top, Toby was trying to talk himself into it.**

**They start a new paragraph. Is their choice correct? Why?**



R

**3b. Write the first sentence of the next paragraph to show a change in time.**



A

## Paragraphs in Fiction

The surface of the water was a rolling expanse of froth, concealing the world that lay underneath. Miniscule fish, dressed more exquisitely than royalty, dived and darted between towers of bright coral. Sunlight cut through the water like a knife and glinted off fish scales and the occasional metallic object that lay half-buried on the sea bed.

Frankie was at home here. Beneath the surface, deep in the heart of the reef, his busy mind could rest. It was easy to forget about the bills that needed paying and the failed friendships that he had left behind when he was surrounded by such overwhelming beauty. Down here, he could simply forget about the world above.

Frankie had completed almost two hundred dives, guiding customers to choice spots around the island and allowing them to take in the sights. Despite all those dives, he had yet to glimpse a manta ray. As a child he had read obsessively about these immense, oddly shaped giants of the oceans, yet he had never been fortunate enough to see one swimming in its natural habitat.

4a. Add a sentence opener to the first sentence of paragraph three so that it marks a change in time.



A

5a. The author adds the following sentence to the end of paragraph one:

Crabs in search of their lunch scuttled sideways across the sea floor, waving their oversized claws proudly.

They do not start a new paragraph. Is their choice correct? Why?



R

6a. Add one sentence to the end of the final paragraph, making sure the focus stays the same.

Write the first sentence of the next paragraph to show a change in location.



A

## Paragraphs in Fiction

**“I must not look down!”**

The couple who had taken the plunge before Toby insisted that the best way to get yourself to leap was to look straight ahead and just do it. If you glanced down even for a moment, they warned, you could talk yourself out of jumping instantly. Too late! He had looked down and he hadn't liked the look of what caught his eye.

One hundred and thirty metres below him, the distant riverbed seemed to be doing its best to talk Toby out of it as well.

The instructor began to count Toby down. He really, *really* wasn't ready for this and he absolutely did not want to die. His mum would kill him if he died! His heart thumped so wildly that he thought it would burst out of his chest. He tried to recall why he had even considered that this would be an exciting thing to do. Oh well. He took a deep breath and closed his eyes. It was now or never.

**4b. Add a sentence opener to the first sentence of paragraph four so that it marks a change in character.**



A

**5b. The author adds the following sentence after writing paragraph three:**

**High above the riverbed and standing well back from the edge, Toby was still trying to talk himself into jumping.**

**They start a new paragraph. Is their choice correct? Why?**



R

**6b. Add one sentence to the end of the final paragraph, making sure the focus stays the same.**

**Write the first sentence of the next paragraph to show a change in time.**



A

## Paragraphs in Fiction

The surface of the water was an expanse of roaring, frothing waves, concealing a world of untouched tranquillity that lay below. A host of shimmering fish, dressed more exquisitely than royals in their finery, dived and darted among towers of precious coral. Sunlight cut through the water like a knife, illuminating fish scales and abandoned metallic objects that lay half-buried on the sea bed.

Frankie was content here. Beneath the surface, hidden in the heart of the reef, his anxious mind could rest. It was easy to forget about his unpaid bills and failed friendships when he was surrounded by such awe-inspiring splendour. While he was swimming down here, everything else paled into insignificance.

Frankie had completed at least two hundred dives as he guided customers to the choicest spots around the archipelago, revealing all that the island had to offer to its guests. Despite the success and frequency of his dives, he had yet to glimpse a manta ray. He had admired and obsessed over these majestic giants of the ocean since he was a child. Frankie longed to see one swimming freely in its natural habitat just once.

7a. Add a sentence opener to the first sentence of paragraph three so that it marks a change of focus in time, location or character.



A

8a. After writing paragraph one, the author writes a new sentence.

It was a truly remarkable sight to behold and one that changed continuously with the flick of a tail or a change in the tide.

Should he start a new paragraph or add it to the end of paragraph one? Explain.



R

9a. Add one sentence to the end of the final paragraph.

Write the first sentence of the next paragraph and include a fronted adverbial to show a change in time, location or character.



A

## Paragraphs in Fiction

**“I must not look down!”**

The couple who had taken the plunge before Toby insisted that the best way to avoid becoming paralysed by fear was to look straight ahead, mentally commit to the jump and then just leap. If you glanced down for even a fraction of a second, they cautioned, you would reject any thought of jumping immediately. Too late. Toby had already looked down and he hadn't liked what he had seen.

One hundred and thirty heart-stopping metres below him, the distant riverbed seemed to be doing its best to talk Toby out of a jump attempt as well. Even the birds who were circling overhead seemed to be squawking their disapproval. Either that, or they were telling him to get on with it so they could pick his bones after it had all gone so tragically wrong.

The instructor, who was disturbingly expressionless at such a stomach-churning height, began to count Toby down. He truly wasn't ready for this and he categorically did not want to die. His mum would kill him if he died! His heart thumped so wildly that he thought it would explode right out of his chest. He tried to recall why he had thought that this would be an exhilarating thing to do... Oh well. He took a deep breath in. It was now or never.

**7b. Add a sentence opener to the first sentence of paragraph four so that it marks a change of focus in time, location or character.**



A

**8b. After writing paragraph three, the author writes a new sentence.**

Many metres above the riverbed, standing well back from the edge, Toby was still mulling over his decision and wondering if a fall from that height was survivable.

Should he start a new paragraph or add it to the end of paragraph one? Explain.



R

**9b. Add one sentence to the end of the final paragraph.**

Write the first sentence of the next paragraph and include a fronted adverbial to show a change in time, location or character.



A

## Application and Reasoning Paragraphs in Fiction

### Developing

- 1a. Various answers, for example: Soon, all this about to change in a very spectacular way.
- 2a. The author is correct as the beautiful sight refers to the location of the first paragraph.
- 3a. Various answers, for example: Whilst swimming along the bottom of the ocean, Frankie spotted something on the sea floor.

### Expected

- 4a. Various answers, for example: Recently, Frankie had completed...
- 5a. The author is correct as the focus is still on the location described in the first paragraph and the creatures that live in it.
- 6a. Various answers, for example:  
End of final paragraph: He often wondered if his dream would ever come true.  
New Paragraph: While swimming near a reef that he was relatively unfamiliar with, Frankie noticed a cloud of sand rising from the sea floor.

### Greater Depth

- 7a. Various answers, for example: 'Throughout the past two years, Frankie had...' would mark a change in time.
- 8a. The author should add it to the end of paragraph one as the remarkable sight refers to the location described in that paragraph.
- 9a. Various answers, for example:  
End of final paragraph: Sadly, with so many species being threatened with extinction, he worried that it was a dream that would never come true.  
New Paragraph: While swimming near a reef that he was relatively unfamiliar with, Frankie noticed a large cloud of sand rise suddenly from the sea floor.

## Application and Reasoning Paragraphs in Fiction

### Developing

- 1b. Various answers, for example: Calmly, the guide began to count Toby down.
- 2b. The author is correct as there has been a change of location, so this would fit as the opening of paragraph 4.
- 3b. Various answers, for example: Eventually, Toby shuffled nervously to the edge.

### Expected

- 4b. Various answers, for example: Calmly but firmly, the instructor began to count Toby down.
- 5b. The author is correct as there has been a change of location, so this would fit as the opening of paragraph 4.
- 6b. Various answers, for example:  
End of final paragraph: Sometimes it was necessary to push yourself out of your comfort zone, or so he had been told.  
New Paragraph: Several nail-biting moments later, Toby finally decided to shuffle closer to the edge.

### Greater Depth

- 7b. Various answers, for example: 'With growing impatience, the instructor...' would mark a change in character.
- 8b. The author should start a new paragraph as there is a change in location.
- 9b. Various answers, for example:  
End of final paragraph: No regrets, that was his motto and if he didn't jump now, he would regret it forever.  
New Paragraph: After what had seemed like an eternity, Toby decided to take a leap of faith.