



LANGUAGE ARTS

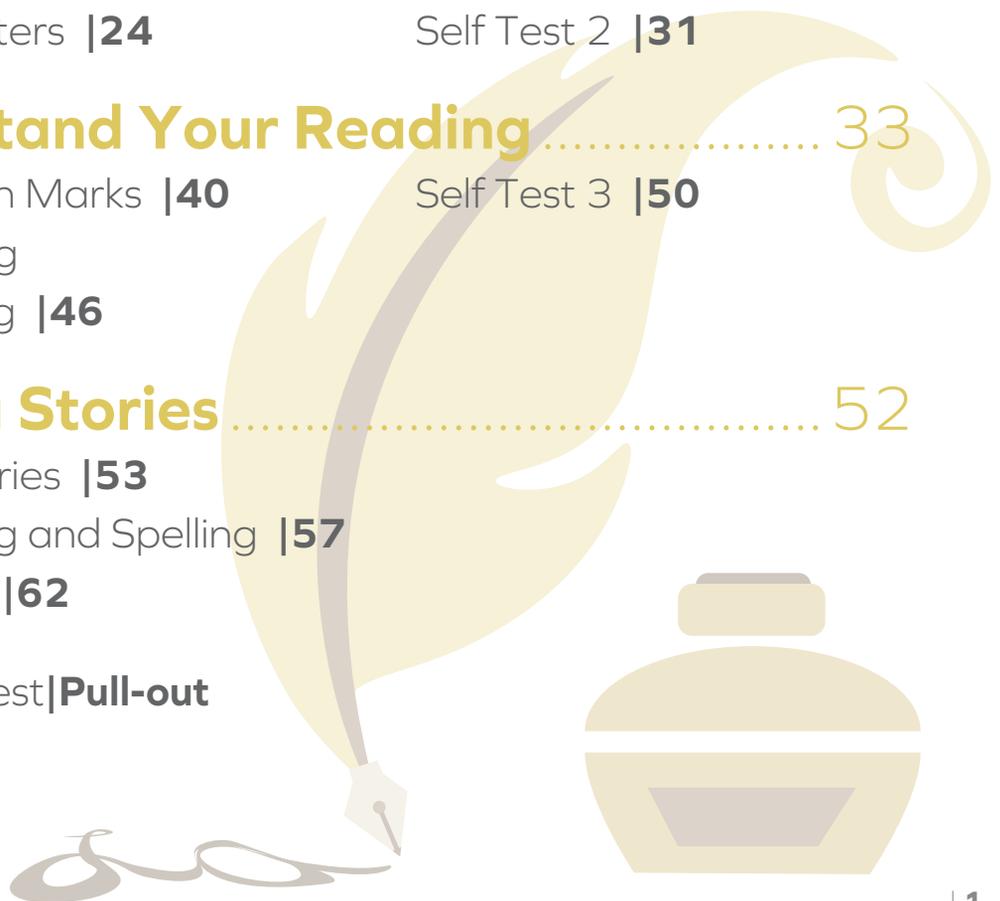
Student Book

▶ **4th Grade** | Unit 5

LANGUAGE ARTS 405

WRITING FOR CLARITY

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WRITING FOR CLARITY

This LIFE PAC® includes a story about a girl named Jeannie whose faith was strengthened. Reading about Jeannie and answering the questions about the story will help you become a better reader. The story is written in two parts, or “chapters.”

You will learn something about the hobby of stamp collecting. You will improve your understanding of capital letters, punctuation, and paragraphs. You will use this knowledge to write your own story. Also you will test your spelling ability as you practice your very best handwriting.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFE PAC. Each section will list according to the numbers below what objectives will be met in that section. When you have completed this LIFE PAC, you should be able to:

1. Tell the difference between cause and effect.
2. Select the main idea of a story.
3. Put the events of a story in the order in which they happened.
4. Decide what is likely to happen next in a story.
5. Describe the author’s purpose in writing a story.
6. Identify figures of speech.
7. Identify paragraphs.
8. Demonstrate the proper use of capital letters and punctuation marks.
9. Define new vocabulary words.
10. Write a story.
11. Spell new words.

1. CAUSE AND EFFECT

Jeannie is a nine-year-old girl who has had much sadness in her life. Though she loves God, she wonders if He cares for her. Reading “A Lesson In Faith” (Part One), will improve your understanding of the problems of other people. It will also improve your reading skills.

This section will help you to write paragraphs. You will also learn to spell new words and practice your handwriting.

Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Tell the difference between cause and effect.
2. Select the main idea of a story.
3. Put the events of a story in the order in which they happened.
4. Decide what is likely to happen next in a story.
7. Identify paragraphs.
9. Define new vocabulary words.
11. Spell new words.

Vocabulary

Study these vocabulary words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAK.

appointment (u point' munt). A fixed time set for people to meet.

decision (di sizh' un). Making up of one's mind; deciding.

delay (di lā'). Put off to a later time.

faith (fāth). Believing or trusting.

foster parents (fô stur par' unts). People who take the place of the father and the mother in raising and caring for a child.

operation (op u rā' shun). A method of using medical instruments on the body as a result of some injury.

orphanage (ôr' fu nij). A home where children who have no living parents live and are cared for.

respond (ri spond'). To answer or to reply.

topic (top' ik). A subject that people think, write, or talk about.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

Reading Skills: “A Lesson in Faith” (Part One)

This story is true but the names and place have been changed. You can learn a lesson about **faith** from this story. You can also learn some important reading skills by studying the story carefully.



1. Jeannie was nine years old. She looked around at her new home. Her eyes were filled with tears. She had suffered beyond her years already. Now, for the first time in her young life, she was starting to feel sorry for herself.
2. To begin with, her new father had lost his job. The company he worked for had been bought by a larger company. The new company had its own man to put into the position that had been her father's. Jeannie and her **foster parents** had been forced to move away from their friends in the city.
3. Jeannie had hated the thought of moving to a small town. She wouldn't be seeing her old friends anymore. Somehow, she didn't care just now to make new friends. She didn't care to explain why she couldn't walk like other girls and boys—Jeannie's second reason for feeling sorry for herself.



4. The third reason was having to move before school was out. That **decision** was made in March. Her father couldn't wait until June. He needed to go to work right away. The **operation** that had been planned when school ended in June now had to be **delayed**—the fourth reason Jeannie felt sorry for herself. Jeannie had prayed to God to heal her right foot ever since she could remember. But God didn't seem to be hearing her prayers. Her unanswered prayer was a fifth reason she felt sorry for herself.
5. Jeannie's birth mother and father had been killed in an automobile accident when Jeannie was only four years old. She could barely remember them. She had been at home asleep with the baby sitter. The next morning Jeannie was told that her parents would not be coming home again. The nice people at the **orphanage** had not been able to have the necessary operation performed. The doctors had told her foster parents that there was only a fifty-fifty chance that the operation would be successful.
6. Now it was April. The family had moved—a new town— a new neighborhood — a new church. On Monday, she would be starting in a new school — new everything. Jeannie was so tired of new things. Too many new things was the sixth reason that Jeannie felt sorry for herself.
7. The friendly men in the moving van had put the last piece of furniture in place. Father had paid the men. They all waved good-bye, and now Jeannie felt so very much alone. She looked out in the back at the trees. Everything was so quiet. No happy children's voices met her ears. Jeannie began to cry softly.
8. "Jeannie, you'll make new friends. Just wait and see. You'll enter the new school on Monday." It was her foster mother, her hand softly touching Jeannie's hair. As she kissed Jeannie's cheek she added, "We'll find a new church this Sunday. Won't that be exciting?"
9. Jeannie did not **respond**. She just nodded her head up and down slowly.



- 10 Her father came into the kitchen. "I've made a **appointment** with the doctors at the hospital here in Middletown." Jeannie's back was to him. She didn't want him to see the tears rolling down her cheeks. He continued, "Your appointment is in two weeks."
11. Jeannie stared out the window. She gulped and managed to say, "Thank you, Daddy."
12. Her foster parents left the room. Jeannie shook her head. What had happened to her faith in God? She sobbed and sobbed.

(to be continued in Section Two)

Cause and effect. Many things in the story caused Jeannie to feel sorry for herself. The reason why something happens is called the *cause*. What happens because of something else is called the *effect*. The fact that Jeannie felt sorry for herself was one effect of the many causes.

Try to remember that the *cause* is the reason something happens and the *effect* is what happened.



Complete this activity.

1.1

Read each sentence carefully. If the boldfaced words tell the cause, circle the word *Cause* below the sentence. If they tell the effect, circle the word *Effect*.

- a. She was feeling sorry for herself **because her new father had lost his job.**
Cause Effect
- b. She and her foster parents **had been forced to move away** from friends in the city.
Cause Effect
- c. For the first time in her young life, **she was starting to feel sorry for herself.**
Cause Effect
- d. The third reason was **having to move before school was out.**
Cause Effect

Main idea. The main idea is the most important thing you learn from a story. The main idea of the story is usually found at the beginning or at the end of a story or paragraph, but it may also be found anywhere in between.



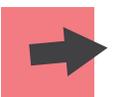
Complete this activity.

1.2 Reread the twelve numbered paragraphs of the story. Tell which paragraph best explains what the main idea of the story is.

a. The paragraph number that has the main idea is _____ .

b. The sentence I think that comes closest to having the main idea is

Order of events. When you read a story, you should notice the order in which the story events happen. You should be able to tell what happened first, what happened second, and so on.



Complete this activity.

1.3 Each of the following sentences tells an event in the story you have just read. The sentences are not listed in the order the events actually happened in Jeannie's life. Put the events of Jeannie's life in order by writing "1" next to the sentence that tells what happened first, "2" next to the sentence that tells what happened second, and so on.

a. _____ The operation that had been planned when school ended in June had to be delayed.

b. _____ Jeannie sobbed and sobbed.

- c. _____ Jeannie looked around at her new home.
- d. _____ Jeannie's birth mother and father had been killed in an automobile accident when Jeannie was only four years old.
- e. _____ The friendly men in the moving van put the last piece of furniture in place.
- f. _____ Jeannie and her foster parents were forced to move away from their friends in the city.
- g. _____ The new company gave Jeannie's father's job to another man.
- h. _____ The company Jeannie's new father worked for was bought by a larger company.

Reading for details. A detail is something that tells about the main idea of a paragraph or a story. A detail gives you information about the main idea. Most of what you read is made up of details.



Complete this activity.

1.4 List six details which tell why Jeannie felt sorry for herself. Write your answers on the next six lines.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____

Outcome. When we read a story, we often find ourselves thinking ahead. We wonder how things will turn out. When events happen the way we thought they would, we have predicted the outcome. We should, of course, base our prediction on what happened throughout the story.



Complete these activities.

1.5

Think of Jeannie’s problems and of all the facts about her. Decide which one of the following is the best answer to her problems. What do you think Jeannie will do? Put a check on the line next to your choice.

- _____ a. go back to the orphanage
- _____ b. refuse to go to the new school
- _____ c. get angry at God for not hearing her prayers
- _____ d. get angry at her father for losing his job
- _____ e. pray to God for forgiveness
- _____ f. cry more and more to get attention

1.6

How do you think the story will end? Write your answer on the lines.



Teacher check:

Initials _____ Date _____

Paragraphs

A paragraph is a group of sentences that tells about one idea. This idea is called the **topic sentence**. The topic sentence is the main idea of the paragraph. All the other sentences contain details which tell about the topic sentence.

A paragraph is easy to find. Each paragraph begins on a new line. The first word is written further in or indented from the margin than the other lines. An alternate way to show that a new paragraph has started is to skip a line so there is more space between the paragraphs.

A well-written paragraph has only one main idea or topic. When it is well-written, the reader can concentrate on the main idea in each paragraph.



Answer these questions.

- 1.7** How many paragraphs were in the information you just read about "Paragraphs"? _____
- 1.8** What is the topic sentence of the first paragraph? _____

- 1.9** What is the topic sentence of the second paragraph? _____

- 1.10** What are two details that tell about the main idea or topic sentence of Paragraph Two?
- a. _____

- b. _____

SELF TEST 1

Write the letter of the correct answer on each line (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.01** Why was Jeannie tired of new things? _____
 a. She wanted to return to her parents.
 b. Each new thing that happened to her was unpleasant.
 c. She did not want to make new friends.
 d. The story does not say.
- 1.02** How the story will end or things will turn out is the _____ of the story.
 a. main idea
 b. cause and effect
 c. outcome
 d. order of events
- 1.03** Jeannie began to cry _____ .
 a. when she could not hear any children's voices
 b. when the moving van drove away
 c. when her foster father told her about the doctor's appointment
 d. when her foster mother told her about going to a new school
- 1.04** Jeannie did not care to explain _____ .
 a. why her parents were dead
 b. why she could not walk as others walk
 c. why she moved to a small town
 d. why her prayers were not answered
- 1.05** Jeannie first felt sorry for herself _____ .
 a. when her parents were killed
 b. when her new father lost his job
 c. when she realized she would not see her friends again
 d. when she knew she had to move

Write a definition for each word (each definition, 4 points).

- 1.06** appointment _____
- 1.07** respond _____
- 1.08** decision _____
- 1.09** delay _____

1.010 faith _____

1.011 foster parents _____

1.012 operation _____

1.013 orphanage _____

1.014 topic _____

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

1.015 _____ A paragraph tells about one idea.

1.016 _____ Each sentence should start on a new line.

1.017 _____ A paragraph should have only one sentence.

1.018 _____ A paragraph should begin farther in from the margin of the paper than the other lines.

1.019 _____ Most of what you read is main ideas.

1.020 _____ A topic sentence contains a main idea.

Tell if the boldfaced portion of each sentence is either cause or effect. Write cause or effect on the line (each answer, 2 points).

1.021 We could not play outdoors because **it was too cold.** _____

1.022 We could not buy gifts because **we had no money.** _____

1.023 **He was a success** because he studied hard. _____

1.024 **We can have salvation** because Christ died for our sins. _____

1.025 Because **she lived by the golden rule,** she was rewarded in many ways.

Match these items (each answer, 3 points).

- | | | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------------------------|----|---|
| 1.026 | _____ | paragraph | a. | What happens because of something else |
| 1.027 | _____ | cause | b. | the most important thing you learn |
| 1.028 | _____ | main idea | c. | tells about the main idea |
| 1.029 | _____ | order of events | d. | contains the main idea |
| 1.030 | _____ | detail | e. | contains one topic sentence |
| 1.031 | _____ | effect | f. | where the main idea is usually found |
| 1.032 | _____ | predicting outcomes | g. | the order in which things happen in a story |
| 1.033 | _____ | beginning or ending of a story | h. | telling how the story will end |
| 1.034 | _____ | topic sentence | i. | why something happened |



Teacher check:

Score _____

Initials _____

Date _____



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