



LANGUAGE ARTS

Student Book

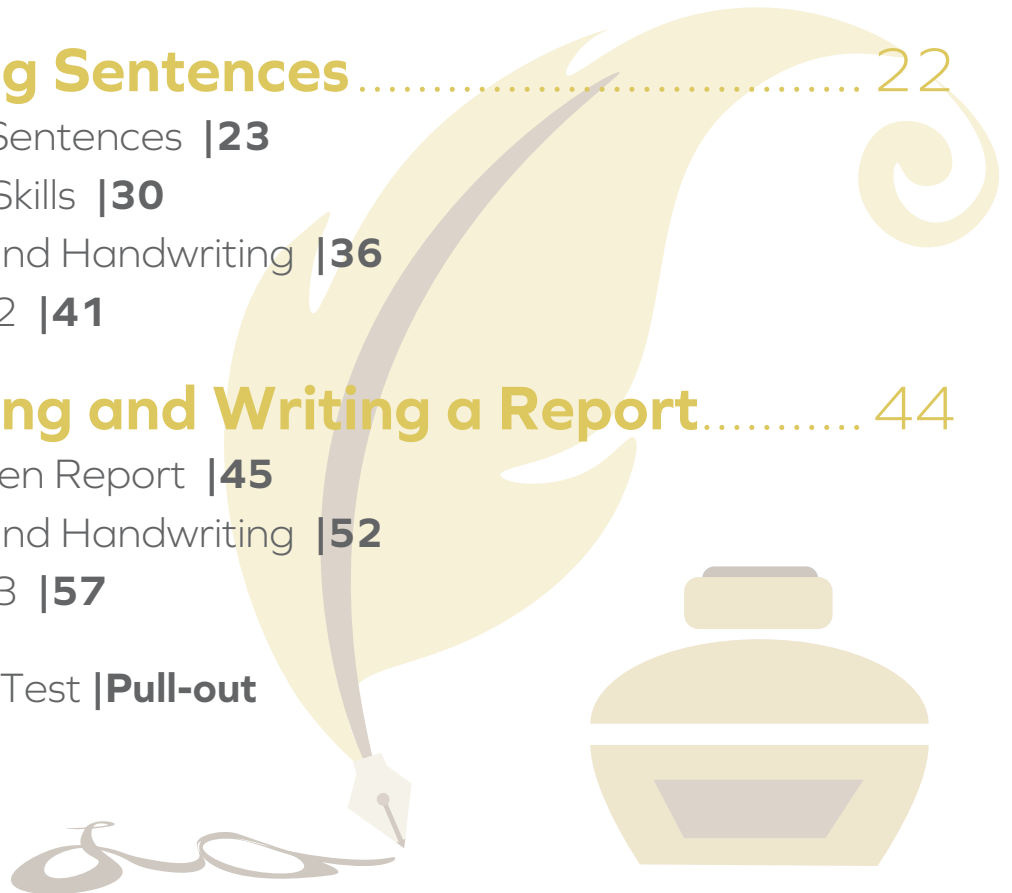
► **5th Grade** | Unit 4

SAMPLE

LANGUAGE ARTS 504

WRITTEN REPORT

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1. SUPPORTING THE MAIN IDEAS

Section 1 is designed to review and add to your knowledge of finding the main idea and supporting details. You will learn to find main ideas and supporting details in a paragraph or a longer passage of writing. Kinds of sentences and the way sentences should be punctuated will be studied. You will be reminded of the value of appropriate speech. You will learn to spell words with silent letters. You will review tips for handwriting, and you will practice these tips on some difficult letter joinings.

Objectives

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

1. Identify sentences that state main ideas.
2. Identify supporting details.
3. Use supporting details to recognize main ideas.
4. Tell the difference between opinion and fact.
5. Write four kinds of sentences with correct punctuation at the end of each.
6. Correctly spell words with silent letters, with the variant sounds of *f* and *c*, and homonyms with the *o* sound.
7. Evaluate your cursive writing by the standard of the five *S*'s.

Vocabulary

Study these new words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFE·PAC.

accumulative (u kyü' myu lä' tiv). Tending to collect little by little.

analyzed (an' u liz). To examine carefully; separate into parts to find out what something is made of.

courtesy (ker' tu sē). Thoughtfulness toward others.

environmental (en vī run men' tul). Having to do with all the surrounding things, conditions, or influences.

EPA (Abbreviation for Environmental Protection Agency). A governmental agency that studies the safety of our environment.



Eating Snow Is Not Cool

Eating snow and licking icicles can be dangerous to your health, **especially** if you're a city kid. That is what two Temple University scientists say. Dr. George Myer, an **environmental geologist**, and Dr. David Grandstaff, a **geochemist**, **analyzed** what was in the snow after a heavy snowfall in Philadelphia.

These two scientists reported that the snow was heavily laced with lead, an **accumulative** poison. The levels of lead in the snow were ten to twenty times greater than the water standard required by the Environmental Protection Agency (**EPA**) and fifty times more than was found in Philadelphia's drinking water.

A small percentage of the pollution in snow comes from **industrial** waste, **particularly** from paint factories. More than 90 percent, however, can be traced to automobile gasoline, released through **exhaust** fumes and trapped in the snow. The lead is trapped while the snow is falling, and continues to collect **microscopic particles** as it lays on the ground.

In the cities the **toxicity** is worse, of course, but even in rural areas the lead content in the environment is measurable and dangerous, the scientists reported.

Eating snow is definitely not a "cool" idea!

**Complete these activities.**

- 1.1** Read the article, "Eating Snow Is Not Cool." Circle the letter which tells where the topic sentence was found.
- introductory sentence
 - detail sentence
 - summary sentence
- 1.2** Put an X on the line before the sentence that gives the main idea.
- _____ Two university scientists analyzed snow.
- _____ The lead is trapped while the snow is falling.
- _____ Eating snow and licking icicles can be dangerous to your health.

Finding supporting details. Supporting details give factual information about the main idea. Supporting details are found in complete sentences or in parts of sentences.

Vocabulary words help you understand the meaning of supporting details, and therefore of the main idea.



| Eating an icicle



Match the words with the definition. Place the letter of the definition on the line before each word.

- | | | |
|------|----------------------------|--|
| 1.3 | _____ accumulative (adj.) | a. more than others |
| 1.4 | _____ analyze (verb) | b. a scientist who studies the chemical changes in the earth's composition and crust |
| 1.5 | _____ environmental (adj.) | c. a person who studies the earth's crust |
| 1.6 | _____ EPA (noun) | d. having to do with surrounding things |
| 1.7 | _____ especially (adv.) | e. having to do with manufacturing |
| 1.8 | _____ exhaust (noun) | f. tiny particles seen only with a microscope |
| 1.9 | _____ geochemist (noun) | g. growth by continuous addition |
| 1.10 | _____ geologist (noun) | h. especially |
| 1.11 | _____ industrial (adj.) | i. poisonous quality |
| 1.12 | _____ microscopic (adj.) | j. abbreviation for Environmental Protection Agency |
| 1.13 | _____ particle (noun) | k. a list of things for a special purpose |
| 1.14 | _____ particularly (adv.) | l. a very little bit |
| 1.15 | _____ toxicity (noun) | m. escape of gases from an engine |
| | | n. separate into parts to learn what something is made of |



Match each statement with a supporting detail taken from the snow article.

There is one statement that has no support.

- 1.16 The men who analyzed the snow were qualified for the job. _____

- 1.17 Snow in the city is more poisonous than snow in the country. _____

- 1.18 No snow is safe for eating. _____

SELF TEST 1

Complete the sentences with words from the word list (each answer, 2 points).

accumulative	exhaust	lead	analyzed
geochemist	microscopic	environmental	geologist
particles	especially	industrial	toxicity

- 1.01** The EPA makes _____ studies to protect our environment.
- 1.02** Studies of levels of poisons in snow were made by a _____.
- 1.03** Studies of snow showed _____ of lead in snow in both rural and city areas.
- 1.04** Automobile _____ fumes are trapped in the falling snow.
- 1.05** High levels of poisonous lead were found when the scientists _____ the snow.
- 1.06** The EPA sets the standard of how high the level of _____ can be in drinking water.
- 1.07** Snowdrifts often show an _____ amount of poison.
- 1.08** The bits of lead cannot be seen because they are _____.
- 1.09** A city with many factories is an _____ center.
- 1.010** We should all be _____ concerned with keeping the environment clean.

Answer the questions with the word *opinion* or *fact* (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.011** _____ The first president of the United States is the father of our country.
- 1.012** _____ Whales are the most beautiful creatures in the ocean.
- 1.013** _____ The acorn is a seed of the mighty oak tree.
- 1.014** _____ Honeybees need flowers to make honey.
- 1.015** _____ Honeybees are the most beautiful insects.



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