

## Varied Fluency

### Step 4: Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

#### 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

English Year 6: Layout devices [for example, headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or tables, to structure text]

Terminology for pupils:

- Ellipsis

#### Differentiation:

**Developing** Questions to support organising sentences within paragraphs by identifying adverbials of time and words or phrases used to contrast ideas, to give reasoning and to develop ideas. Includes simple sentences and options given for support.

**Expected** Questions to support organising sentences within paragraphs by identifying adverbials of time and words or phrases used to contrast ideas, to give reasoning and to develop ideas. Includes multi-clause sentences and options given for support.

**Greater Depth** Questions to support organising sentences within paragraphs by identifying adverbials of time and words or phrases used to contrast ideas, to give reasoning and to develop ideas. Includes extended sentences and no options given for support.

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## Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

Ashkay's parents were going out for the night. For the first time ever, he was to be left on his own. That meant no babysitter, and no Aunt Janice!

He had great plans for this evening. First, he would finish a level on his favourite game and earn the battle pass he needed. Next, he would take a break to eat pizza and drink fizzy pop. Finally, he planned to watch that scary film his parents said he was too young to watch. What a perfect evening it would be!

As his parents walked to the car, his mother seemed to have a change of mind, "It's not too late for me to call Aunt Janice. Maybe you aren't ready for this. On the other hand, how will you ever be ready if we don't give you a chance?" She sighed and looked at him for a moment, "Are you sure you'll be ok?" she asked.

Upset at the thought of Aunt Janice and his ruined plans, Ashkay replied, "I'll be fine. Go and enjoy some time together. You deserve it!" he smiled calmly and quickly shut the door before his mother could change her mind again.

Phew! Now the fun could begin. He began by locking the door (as promised) and closing the curtains. Next, he poured himself a drink and grabbed himself a snack. Finally, he settled himself into his chair and popped his headset on. This was going to be the best night ever. However, little did he know that his plans were about to change...

1a. Underline the adverbial of time in the sentence below.

Next, he would take a break to eat pizza and drink fizzy pop.



VF

2a. Underline the word used to contrast an idea in the sentence below.

However, little did he know that his plans were about to change...



VF

3a. True or false? The sentences below have been ordered logically.

After a while, he was tried of playing so he removed his headphones. Next, he decided to fetch the pizza and a drink.



VF

4a. What is the main focus of paragraph 1?

Setting the scene

Ashkay's actions



VF

## Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

Turning the handle, Jacinta checked again that the door was locked. Next, she flicked her torch on and off again to make sure that it still worked. Finally, she got into her sleeping bag and pulled the zip up to the top. She'd be fine. It'd be fun!

That morning, Jacinta had begged her parents to let her spend the night in her treehouse. Jacinta had promised to tidy her room. She also promised to empty the dishwasher every day for a week. Eventually, they agreed to let her do it.

Now, it was late and Jacinta couldn't sleep. It was so quiet and so dark. Dad had left the outside light on, but it didn't light up the bottom of the garden. She had to decide. She could lie here all night or she could sneak back inside and sleep in her own bed. Her mind was made up. She was off to her bed!

As she climbed out of her sleeping bag, a strange noise made her stop and listen. Creak...creak...creak... There it was again. To her horror, she realised that someone was climbing the ladder to the treehouse. Her heart pounded madly in her chest as she stared at the door.

Eventually, survival instincts kicked in and she grabbed the torch. She also grabbed her flask of hot chocolate, although she wasn't sure why. She flicked the torch on and aimed it straight at the door. Then, she waited. She held her breath as she watched the handle turn slowly...

1b. Underline the adverbial of time in the sentence below.

Finally, she got into her sleeping bag and pulled the zip up to the top.



VF

2b. Underline the word used to develop an idea in the sentence below.

She also promised to empty the dishwasher every day for a week.



VF

3b. True or false? The sentences below have been ordered logically.

However, she needed to find it first. At that moment, Jacinta remembered she had a mobile phone.



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4b. What is the main focus of paragraph 2?

Build-up of  
suspense

A  
flashback



VF

## Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

Ashkay's parents were going out for the night and, for the first time ever, he was to be left on his own – no babysitter, and definitely no annoying Aunt Janice!

He had great plans lined up! First, he would complete a mission on his favourite game and earn the battle pass he so badly needed. Next, he would take a well-earned break to eat pizza and drink unlimited amounts of fizzy pop. Finally, he planned to watch that terrifying film his parents said he was too young to watch. What a perfect evening it would be!

As his parents walked to the car, his mother appeared to have a change of mind, "It's not too late for me to call Aunt Janice. Maybe you aren't ready for this. On the other hand, how will you ever be ready if we don't give you the chance to prove yourself?" She sighed and looked at him for a moment before asking, "Are you sure you'll be ok?"

Horrified at the thought of Aunt Janice and his ruined plans, Ashkay replied, "I'll be absolutely fine. Go and enjoy some quality time together – you deserve it!" he smiled his most reassuring smile and hastily shut the door before his mother could change her mind again.

Phew! Now the fun could begin. He began by locking the door (as promised) and closing the curtains. Next, he poured himself a drink and grabbed himself a snack, in addition to the pizza he was going to eat later. Finally, he settled himself into his chair and popped his headset on. This was going to be the best night ever. However, little did he know that his plans were about to change...

5a. Underline the adverbials of time in paragraph 2.



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6a. In paragraph 3, find and copy an example of a word or phrase used to contrast ideas.



VF

7a. True or false? The sentences below have been ordered logically.

Eventually, after the battle was won, he adjusted his headphones and that was when he noticed it. To begin with, Ashkay was so thoroughly engrossed with the onscreen battle that he didn't hear the peculiar noise.



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8a. What is the main focus of paragraph 5?

Ashkay's  
thoughts

Ashkay's  
actions

Ashkay's  
parents



VF

## Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

Rattling the handle, Jacinta checked that the door was locked. Next, she flicked her torch on and off repeatedly to make sure that it still worked. Finally, she slipped down into her sleeping bag and pulled the zip up as far as it would go. She'd be fine. It'd be fun!

That morning, Jacinta had begged her parents to let her spend the night in her treehouse at the bottom of the garden. To help persuade them, Jacinta had promised to tidy her room, in addition to emptying the dishwasher every day for a week. Eventually, they agreed to let her do it.

Now, in the dead of night, Jacinta was lying there, unable to sleep. It was so quiet and so dark. Dad had left the outside light on, but its warm, reassuring glow didn't quite make it to the bottom of the garden. She had a decision to make. She could lie here all night, or alternatively, she could sneak back inside and sleep in her warm, safe bed. Her decision was made, she was off to her bed!

As she climbed out of her sleeping bag, a peculiar noise made her pause and listen. Creak...creak...creak... There it was again. To her horror, she realised that someone was climbing the ladder to the treehouse. Her eyes widened and her heart pounded madly in her chest as she stared at the door.

Eventually, survival instincts kicked in and she reached for the torch. She also grabbed the flask of hot chocolate that her dad had given her, but she wasn't quite sure what she intended to do with it yet. She flicked the torch on and aimed it straight at the door. Then, she waited, not daring to move or breathe as she watched the handle turn slowly...

5b. Underline the adverbials of time in paragraph 1.



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6b. In paragraph 2, find and copy an example of a word or phrase used to develop ideas.



VF

7b. True or false? The sentences below have been ordered logically.

Suddenly, there was a loud and urgent knock at the door. This was followed by a loud, booming voice which said, "I'm here to get you. Open this door at once!"



VF

8b. What is the main focus of paragraph 4?

Build-up of  
suspense

Jacinta's  
actions

A  
flashback



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## Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

Tonight, Ashkay's parents were attending a black tie event and, for the first time ever, he was to be left on his own – no babysitter, and absolutely no annoying Aunt Janice!

He had awesome plans for this evening. First, he would complete a mission on his favourite game and earn the battle pass he so desperately needed. Then, he would take a well-earned break to eat a humongous pizza and drink copious amounts of fizzy pop. Finally, he planned to watch that petrifying film his parents said he was too young to watch. What a perfect evening it would be!

As his parents (in all their finery) walked to the car, his mother appeared to have a change of mind, "It's not too late for me to call Aunt Janice. Maybe you aren't ready for this. On the other hand, how will you ever be ready if we don't give you the chance to prove yourself?" She sighed deeply and observed him for a moment before asking, "Are you sure you'll be ok?"

Perturbed at the thought of Aunt Janice and his ruined plans, Ashkay replied, "I'll be absolutely fine. Go and enjoy some quality time together – you deserve it!" he smiled his most reassuring smile and hastily shut the door before his mother could change her mind again.

Phew! Now the fun could commence. Straightaway, he secured the door (as promised) and drew the curtains. Afterwards, he poured himself a drink and grabbed himself a snack, in addition to the pizza he was going to eat later. Lastly, he settled himself into his chair and popped his headset on. This was going to be the best night ever. Little did he know, however, that his plans were about to change drastically...

9a. Underline three adverbials of time from the text.



VF

10a. Find and copy two examples of a word or phrase used to contrast ideas.



VF

11a. True or false? The sentences below have been ordered logically.

The noise had gone unnoticed for a little while as a result of him wearing his headset. However, once the earphones had been removed, he finally heard it. He paused momentarily to listen more carefully.



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12a. What is the main focus of paragraph 5?



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## Organising Sentences within Paragraphs

Rattling the handle, Jacinta checked that the door was locked for the tenth time that night. Next, she flicked her torch on and off again to make sure that it still worked. Finally, she slipped down into her hefty, hooded sleeping bag and pulled the zip up as far as it would go. She'd be fine, it'd be fun!

Earlier that day, Jacinta had implored her parents to let her spend the night in her treehouse at the bottom of the garden. To help persuade them, Jacinta had pledged to tidy her room, in addition to emptying the dishwasher every day for a week. Eventually, they agreed to let her do it.

Now, in the dead of night, Jacinta was lying there, unable to sleep. It was so quiet and so dark. Dad had left the outside light on, but its warm, reassuring glow didn't penetrate as far as the bottom of the garden. She had a decision to make. She could lie her all night, or alternatively, she could sneak back inside and sleep soundly in her warm, safe bed. Her decision was made, she was off to her bed!

As she scrambled out of her sleeping bag, a peculiar noise made her pause and listen. Creak...creak...creak... There it was again. To her horror, she realised that someone was climbing the ladder – the ladder to the treehouse. Her eyes widened and her heart pounded madly in her chest, as she stared open-mouthed at the door.

Eventually, survival instincts kicked in and she reached for the torch. She also grabbed the flask of hot chocolate that her dad had given her, but she wasn't quite sure what she intended to do with it yet. She flicked the torch on and, with shaking hands, she aimed it straight at the door. Then, she waited, not daring to move or breathe as she watched the handle turn slowly...

9b. Underline three adverbials of time from the text.



VF

10b. Find and copy two examples of a word or phrase used to develop ideas.



VF

11b. True or false? The sentences below have been ordered logically.

Finally, she worked out what she had to do. As the minutes ticked by, she realised she would have to do something. On the other hand, whoever was trying to get in had failed so far.



VF

12b. What is the main focus of paragraph 2?



VF

**Varied Fluency**  
**Organising Sentences within**  
**Paragraphs**

**Developing**

- 1a. **next**
- 2a. **however**
- 3a. **True**
- 4a. **Setting the scene**

**Expected**

- 5a. **first, next, finally**
- 6a. **on the other hand**
- 7a. **False, the sentences do not make sense in that order.**
- 8a. **Ashkay's actions**

**Greater Depth**

- 9a. **Various possible answers, for example: tonight, first, then, finally, straightaway, afterwards, lastly**
- 10a. **on the other hand, however**
- 11a. **True**
- 12a. **To take us through the sequence of his actions.**

**Varied Fluency**  
**Organising Sentences within**  
**Paragraphs**

**Developing**

- 1b. **finally**
- 2b. **also**
- 3b. **False, the sentences do not make sense in that order.**
- 4b. **A flashback**

**Expected**

- 5b. **next, finally**
- 6b. **in addition**
- 7b. **True**
- 8b. **Build-up of suspense**

**Greater Depth**

- 9b. **Various possible answers, for example: next, finally, earlier that day, eventually, now, then**
- 10b. **in addition, also, and**
- 11b. **False, the sentences do not make sense in that order.**
- 12b. **A flashback to explain the events that lead to Jacinta spending the night in the treehouse.**