

KS2 English



There are five reasons
for starting a new paragraph

Reason 3

A new paragraph is needed when
the **time** in a story changes



This street is going to
look really scary once it
is dark later tonight.



An Introduction to Paragraphs

When you write a story (and in most other types of writing), you will write more than one sentence. To make your work easy to read, your sentences must follow on from each other in a logical way. You will need to put each new sentence that you write after the last one, in a way that makes sense.

A group of sentences that are about one thing, and follow on from each other in a way that makes sense, is called a paragraph.

	<p>First</p> <p>words need to be put together in the correct way to make a sentence</p>
	<p>Second</p> <p>sentences need to be put together in the correct order to make a paragraph</p>

If you are writing a story you need to organise the sentences into separate paragraphs. A paragraph contains a group of sentences that are about one topic. When something changes in your story, you will need to start a new paragraph.

The different parts of your story should always be put into separate paragraphs. This makes the story easier to read. You can do this by starting a new paragraph on the next line after the last paragraph has finished.

It is important when you write a story, to keep all the information about the same thing in the same paragraph. However, you also need to remember to start a new paragraph when something changes. There are five separate occasions when you need to start a new paragraph.

The Five Reasons to Start a new Paragraph

It is important when you write, to keep all the information about the same thing in one paragraph. However, you also need to remember to start a new paragraph when something changes.

You need to start a new paragraph every time something in a story changes. The five reasons for something changing in a story are:	
1	when something new happens in the story
2	when the setting in the story changes
3	when the time in the story changes
4	when a new character appears in the story
5	every time someone in the story speaks
You are now going to learn about the third reason for starting a new paragraph.	

Reason 3

You need to start a new paragraph when the **time** in a story changes

Look at these sentences from a story about how the last five minutes of a netball match changed everything. Not all the sentences belong in the same paragraph. Read the sentences first:

a	We were all nervous the week before the game started.
b	Once it began we really had to play our best.
c	We were losing by one goal with 5 minutes to go.
d	Suddenly, I had the ball and ran towards the net.
e	With only seconds left, the ball was up in the air and straight into their net.

Now answer these questions about which sentences belong together.

1. Which three of the sentences above belong in the same paragraph?

2. These sentences should be in their own paragraph. Why? Give a reason.

3. Explain if sentences (a) and (b) above should have been in the same paragraph.

Now Work on Your Own

Working on your own will help you to make sure that your learning is on track. Complete the box at the bottom.

You have learnt that "a new paragraph is needed when the time in a story changes".

Now explain what this means in your own words.



A new paragraph is needed when the time in a story changes because....



Still working on your own fill in the blanks in the table below.

The five reasons for starting a new paragraph in a story			
1	When something		happens.
2	When the		in the story changes.
3	When the		in the story
4	When a new		appears.
5	When someone in the story starts		

Now check your answers.

You should have used these six words to fill in the blanks above so that they make sense (they are not in the right order). If you didn't use these then do the table again.

speaking	character	changes
setting	time	new

Independent Learning Activity

You will learn more if you stop to think about what you have learnt

Look at this sentence from this lesson.

You need to start a new paragraph when the time in a story changes.

Nazeem says that this could mean when the time of day changes from morning to night.

Do you think she is right?

yes

no

Give a reason for your response.

