

Lesson 18

Describing Connections Between Sentences and Paragraphs

Learning Target

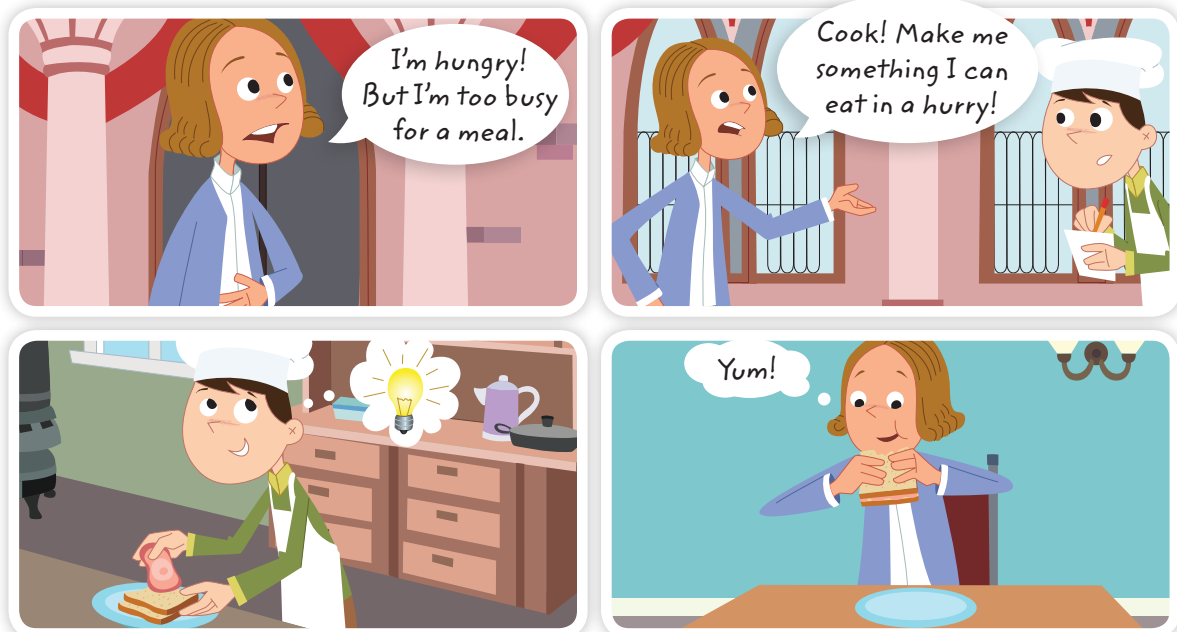
When you describe how ideas in sentences or paragraphs are connected, you will better understand what the author is trying to explain.

- **Read** You know that a paragraph is a group of sentences. Paragraphs and sentences both contain ideas that connect to each other in some way. Sometimes the **connection** is a cause-and-effect relationship. A **cause** is the reason something happens. An **effect** is what happens as a result. Words such as *because*, *so*, *as a result*, and *since* often signal this kind of connection.

Authors also connect sentences and paragraphs by showing that things happen in a **sequence**, or order. Look for signal words such as *first*, *then*, and *finally* in sentences to see how ideas and events in a sequence are connected.

Read this cartoon. How are the ideas connected?

The Invention of the Sandwich



► **Think** Finish the charts to show two different ways the ideas in the cartoon are connected. Use the first chart to show a cause-and-effect connection. Use the second to show a sequence.

Cause and Effect

Why It Happened (Cause)	What Happened (Effect)
<p><i>One day, the Earl of Sandwich was too busy to eat.</i></p>	

Sequence

1	2	3

► **Talk** Retell the story of the invention of the sandwich. Use signal words to show cause and effect or sequence.



Academic Talk

Use these words to talk about the text.

- **connection**
- **cause**
- **effect**
- **sequence**



by Claire Daniels

- 1 Astronaut food has changed over the years. In the early days of space exploration, astronauts traveled in small spacecraft, where there was little room for food. Fresh foods in early space travel were not practical. They spoiled, took up too much space, and were too heavy.
- 2 As a result, astronauts in space ate freeze-dried foods. Freeze-dried foods don't spoil. They don't weigh much, and they don't take up much space. Add water and you have "fresh" peas, mashed potatoes, steak, or macaroni and cheese. There is even freeze-dried ice cream!
- 3 Foods are freeze-dried in a food plant. First, vegetables and fruits are washed and cut up. Foods like meats and pasta are cooked. Second, the food is frozen to -40 degrees Fahrenheit. Then workers grind the food into smaller pieces or into a powder. Finally, the foods are dried to remove 98 percent of the water.
- 4 Today, astronauts travel with freezers and ovens, so they don't depend on freeze-dried foods. Still, many people who go on backpacking and boat trips often use them.

Close Reader Habits

Circle words in paragraph 2 that signal cause and effect.

Underline words in paragraph 3 that show sequence.

Explore

How are sentences and paragraphs connected in "Space Food"?



Look for what happened and why it happened to understand the events.

Think

- 1 Finish the cause-and-effect chart with details from the first two paragraphs of "Space Food."

Cause and Effect

Why It Happened (Cause)	What Happened (Effect)

Talk

- 2 Talk with your partner about what it must be like to eat in space. What were some of the benefits of freeze-dried foods for the astronauts?

Write

- 3 **Short Response** In your own words, explain how freeze-dried foods are made. Use signal words correctly to show the sequence of the steps. Use the space provided on page 302 to write your answer.

HINT Words such as *first*, *then*, and *finally* can signal sequence.



From

Eat This Spoon!

by Elizabeth Preston

- 1 Imagine you're at a picnic, enjoying some ice cream and fruit salad. Then you top off your meal by eating your spoon.
- 2 That's the vision of a company in India. They want to replace plastic forks and spoons with edible ones made out of food. This could cut down on how much plastic people use and throw away.
- 3 The company uses a simple recipe to create its spoons. It starts with flour made from a grain called sorghum, with wheat and rice flours mixed in. Workers knead the flour with water to make a dough. Then they shape it into spoons. They bake the spoons until they're hard.
- 4 An edible spoon is sturdy enough to handle cold ice cream or hot soup. You can also munch on one as a snack. The spoons are meant to be used only one time. They are not washed and reused. But if you're too full to eat your spoon after your meal, you can put it in a compost pile, or just throw it in the dirt. It should decompose in a week—unless bugs or animals eat it first!



Close Reader Habits

How are the ideas in paragraph 2 connected? **Circle** any signal words you see.

 **Think**

- 1** Reread paragraph 3 from “Eat This Spoon.”

The company uses a simple recipe to create its spoons. It starts with flour made from a grain called sorghum, with wheat and rice flours mixed in. Workers knead the flour with water to make a dough. Then they shape it into spoons. They bake the spoons until they’re hard.

Which words in the paragraph signal a sequence?

- A** uses, made from, make
- B** starts, then, until
- C** with, in, into
- D** knead, shape, bake



Look for words that help you understand the order of events.

 **Talk**

- 2** Where did the writer show a cause-and-effect connection in paragraph 4? What is the cause and what is the effect? Hint: What happens if you throw an edible spoon in the dirt?

 **Write**

- 3 Short Response** Describe how the author uses a cause-and-effect connection in paragraph 4 to support her point that edible spoons are better than plastic spoons. Use the space provided on page 303 to write your response.

HINT Reread paragraphs 2 and 4 to find ways that edible spoons are different from plastic ones.