

# Lesson 10: How to Group Similar Ideas Together

**Purpose of Lesson 10:** You will learn more about **Part C** of **The ABC's of Prewriting**: "How to group similar ideas together."





**Skills:** Reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing.

## Words to Learn

**paragraph** - a group of sentences related to the same idea: *Nicholas's essay about dinosaurs has four paragraphs.*

*Note: Indent the first sentence of the paragraph. Indent using the TAB key once.*

**sentence** - a complete thought: *A sentence has to have good grammar and spelling. Ana and Marin check their sentences for errors.*

	<p>1</p> <p>Let's look at the chart again. What's next?</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Grouping! What exactly is that?</p>	
	<p>3</p> <p>Grouping is organizing your information or putting similar information together. We are going to look over your information again and organize it into <i>smaller lists</i>.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>How can I do that?</p>	

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Review the information you gathered in **Part B of The ABC's of Prewriting**. Break it down into similar groups that are based on *similar information*. The key is to find information that is similar. In the end, you might have 3-4 small groups. Later, when you begin to write your essay, each grouping can become a **paragraph** and the ideas in your list become sentences!

6

So that is where you get the information to write a paragraph! Grouping is important, but appears to be tricky.



7



Let's get started. We will start with a list and then go to a cluster drawing?

8

I prefer to work with lists.



9



OK. Go back to your brainstorm list, look for what goes together or is similar. Put these ideas into separate lists. Then give each list a title or name. This name is important because it gives you the **main idea of that list**.

10

That sounds familiar. Earlier I looked for the main idea of the essay, now I am looking for the main idea of each smaller list. Interesting.



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Later.....

11



How did it go?

12

When I reviewed my “Lucy list”, it seemed like I could make three smaller lists. I added more information, too. I have even named each list. How is this?



## Dora's Lists and Titles

### Finding Lucy

cold  
hungry  
scared  
wound  
sad  
dirty  
cute  
friendly  
older female

### Helping Lucy

talk to doctor  
gave her shots  
named her Lucy  
gave her bath  
looked for owners  
decided to keep her

### Problems

responsibilities  
expensive  
time



**Congratulations, Dora, you did a great job!**

**Let's review. How did she group and name her lists?**

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*Continued after Lesson 10 Quiz 1*

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Nice job; so far so good. I like the names you put on your lists. Now let's put that same information into a cluster drawing. I recommend that you learn different methods for organizing your information. Later, you will be able to choose the methods that work best for you.

14

Thanks. Lists are good for me, but I should see how a cluster drawing works.



15



Okay. Your essay is about Lucy, so draw a circle and put Lucy's name in the middle. Next, draw three other circles around the "Lucy Circle", then draw a line from the "Lucy Circle" to each of the other circles. Give each circle a name, just as you gave separate titles to your lists. Use the same information you used in your lists, only this time, place the information in the separate circles around the "Lucy Circle". I will give you and the class a cluster diagram to complete.

16

I think I get how this cluster diagram works. How is this?



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Ms. Shine is going to give you a practice cluster drawing, too. Follow her directions above. After you complete it, compare your cluster drawing to Dora's to see how you did. Is it similar? It has been started for you. Good luck!

*Continued after Lesson 10 Quiz 2*

## **Found**

brown, cold, floppy  
ears, female,  
hungry, scared,  
hurt, sad, dirty, lost,  
cute, lovable

## **Lucy**

## **Help**

Took her to doctor,  
got her shots,  
named her Lucy,  
gave her a bath,  
decided to keep her

## **Problems**

Responsibilities,  
expensive, time

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It looks good! Practice grouping using both methods for awhile until you get used to them.

18

All right, I think I will do the list first. Organizing the lists will help me make a cluster drawing.



19



I'm glad I came to see you. Now, I have a better understanding of how to group and title my information. Learning it step by step was the best. Thank you.

20

I am very happy to hear that. Well, there is more to come. We will go through it together as we did before. If you are having trouble understanding something, a conference is an excellent way to handle the problem. Feel free to see me anytime.



**Dear Learner, Here is a reminder. In this case, only brainstorming and the w/h questions were used to gather and develop information. Many times you will get an essay topic, and you will have to use the library or internet for research. Don't forget, interviewing people can be important, too. It all depends on your topic.**