

Lesson 16: Learn How to Write a Draft

Purpose of Lesson 16: You will learn how to write a draft.

Skills: Reading comprehension, writing, and vocabulary.

Words to Learn:

draft - the first writing of a paragraph or essay:

Olivia is ready to write her first draft.

Directions: Read the conversation below and answer the questions that follow.

1



Dear Learner:
Below are Dora's first paragraphs. She put her three paragraphs and conclusion together. Let's see how they look and read. Are your paragraphs similar to hers?

2

We are going to compare your work to mine; this ought to be interesting!



3



Remember, this is Dora's first attempt. She hasn't used the checklist yet, but she will. It's a great tool.

4

If it makes my writing better, I am all for it!



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Note: This is a first draft and contains many errors. The draft will be revised and edited as the lessons continue.

Dora's First Draft:

This is Dora's first attempt to write and put her paragraphs together. She numbered her paragraphs to help her stay organized.

1

Last Febuary, on a cold day I found a dog. She was cold scared dirty and looked sad. I knew she was hungary because her bones were sticking out.I was cold and hungary too. I hoped mom had a delicious hot dinner ready. She was very cute and very friendly. I felt bad for her because she kept following me. I saw a wound on her neck and wondered where she had been and how long she had been lost or if she was lost at all. Maybe she had an abusive owner and ran away? I like summer better than winter, I bet dogs do to! It was an older female dog.

2

I decided to help her so I named her Lucy. I take her home and fed her, she ate very fast and did not stop! I decided I had better take her to the vet for a check-up. While she was their they gave her shots and a bath. Omar and I hate shots. We wonder if they hurt the dog. She looked and smelled a lot better after that. I made some phone calls to the animal shelters to see if I could find her owners but no luck so I decided to keep her and give her a nice home. Some people should not have pets, they are not responsible owners. This Lucy is costing me money. She was pitiful.

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3

Pets can be nice. There were some problems about keeping Lucy. It would mean a lot more responsibility for me. Taking care of a dog is a big job. I have to walk the dog. I don't know if I like that. It will be expensive to. Dogs need food, shots, and visits to the vet. And, what will I do with her when my family goes away on vacation! Am I making the right decision? Mom and Dad said that if I keep Lucy, she will be my responsibility! Some of my friends have pets to, like cats, dogs and even fish. Personally, I'd rather have Lucy than a fish or a cat. Lucy could be a problem.

4

Conclusion: I am happy that I found Lucy and that I keep her. Lucy is healthy and clean. The responsibilities are okay. It makes me feel good that she's safe and happy. She is a lot of fun and very friendly and very expensive. My friends say that their pets are expensive too but not the fish. Everyone likes her. Omar helps me take care of her. Everyone one likes her. When she wags her tail I know she is saying "Thank you". Now Lucy is healthy and clean.

Finding Lucy-main idea

cold sad

hungry dirty

scared cute

wound friendly

older female February

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Helping Lucy-main idea

took to doctor

gave her shots

named her Lucy

gave her bath

looked for owners

decided to keep her

Problems- main idea

more responsibilities (walking dog),

expensive (food, vet),

I need help when I work, travel or go to school.



How did you do? If you feel that you did not.

- Clearly write topic sentences for your paragraphs.
- Write two sentences using supporting details per paragraph.
- Write a conclusion to your essay.

Feel free to try again! Review your work in Lessons 13, 14 and 15.

- You can try rewriting your paragraphs as your answers to questions.

Remember, good writing takes patience. The more you write, the better you get I promise.