Solving a Conflict Writing

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: Informative writing **explains** or **teaches** with facts. Start with a **topic sentence**, give **three details**, and finish with a **closing sentence**.

Linking words: *First ... Next ... Also ... Finally ...*



1. Fair or unfair?

Two friends want the same toy. Is this a **fair** or **unfair** way to solve it?

1	Take turns and use a timer.	fair	unfair
2	Grab the toy and run away.	fair	unfair
3	Listen while the other person talks.	fair	unfair
4	Yell until the other person gives up.	fair	unfair
5	Play rock, paper, scissors to choose who goes first.	fair	unfair
6	Call the other person a mean name.	fair	unfair

2. Topic and closing sentences

Circle the best sentence.

1. Which is the best topic sentence?

(a) Recess is my favourite time.
(b) My brother is ten.
(c) When friends disagree, they can solve the problem in a few fair steps.

2. Which is the best closing sentence?

(a) The swing is blue.
(b) Solving problems fairly helps friends stay friends.
(c) First, take a deep breath.

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3. Plan your paragraph

Two friends both want to use the same swing at recess. Explain the steps they can follow to solve the problem fairly. Plan first. Write short notes.

Topic sentence: what will you explain?

Detail 1

Detail 2

Detail 3

Closing sentence

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4. Write your paragraph

Use your plan. Indent the first line.

Prompt: Two friends both want to use the same swing at recess. Explain the steps they can follow to solve the problem fairly.

Check: ☐ Topic sentence ☐ Three facts or details ☐ Linking words (first, also, finally) ☐ Closing sentence ☐ Capitals and periods

Answer Key

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1. Fair or unfair?

1	Take turns and use a timer.	**fair**	unfair
2	Grab the toy and run away.	fair	**unfair**
3	Listen while the other person talks.	**fair**	unfair
4	Yell until the other person gives up.	fair	**unfair**
5	Play rock, paper, scissors to choose who goes first.	**fair**	unfair
6	Call the other person a mean name.	fair	**unfair**

2. Topic and closing sentences

1. Which is the best topic sentence?

- a. Recess is my favourite time.
- b. My brother is ten.
- **c. When friends disagree, they can solve the problem in a few fair steps.**

2. Which is the best closing sentence?

- a. The swing is blue.
- **b. Solving problems fairly helps friends stay friends.**
- c. First, take a deep breath.

3. Plan your paragraph

Sample notes. Answers will vary.

Topic sentence: what will you explain?

friends can solve a problem in three fair steps

Detail 1

stop and calm down: deep breath, count to five

Detail 2

take turns talking: say what you want, listen to the other

Detail 3

choose a fair plan: take turns, share, or ask an adult

Closing sentence

fair steps help friends stay friends

Model Answer

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4. Write your paragraph

A model answer to share with students. Their writing will be different.

When two friends both want the same swing, they can solve the problem in three fair steps. First, both friends should stop and calm down by taking a deep breath. Next, they take turns talking. Each friend says what they want while the other one listens. Finally, they choose a fair plan, such as taking turns for five minutes each or playing rock, paper, scissors. If they still cannot agree, they can ask an adult for help. Solving problems fairly helps friends stay friends.