Transportation 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. Land, water or air?

Circle where each vehicle travels.



1	a school bus	land	water	air
2	a ferry	land	water	air
3	a helicopter	land	water	air
4	a train	land	water	air
5	a sailboat	land	water	air
6	an airplane	land	water	air

2. Topic and closing sentences

Circle the best sentence.

1. Which is the best topic sentence?

(a) People travel from place to place on land, on water and in the air.
(b) My bike is blue.
(c) Boats float.

2. Which is the best closing sentence?

(a) Planes have wings.
(b) Whether by land, water or air, transportation helps people go almost anywhere.
(c) First, buy a ticket.

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3. Plan your paragraph

People travel on land, on water and in the air. Explain the different ways people get from place to place. Give an example of each. 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: People travel on land, on water and in the air. Explain the different ways people get from place to place. Give an example of each.

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

Answer Key

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1. Land, water or air?

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2	a ferry	land	**water**	air
3	a helicopter	land	water	**air**
4	a train	**land**	water	air
5	a sailboat	land	**water**	air
6	an airplane	land	water	**air**

2. Topic and closing sentences

1. Which is the best topic sentence?

- **a People travel from place to place on land, on water and in the air.**
- b My bike is blue.
- c Boats float.

2. Which is the best closing sentence?

- a Planes have wings.
- **b Whether by land, water or air, transportation helps people go almost anywhere.**
- c First, buy a ticket.

3. Plan your paragraph

Sample notes. Answers will vary.

Topic sentence: what will you explain?

people travel on land, on water and in the air

Detail 1

land: cars, buses, trains, bikes; roads and tracks

Detail 2

water: boats, ferries; across lakes and oceans

Detail 3

air: airplanes, helicopters; fastest for far places

Closing sentence

land, water, air: go almost anywhere

Model Answer

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4. Write your paragraph

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

People travel from place to place on land, on water and in the air. On land, people ride in cars, buses and trains, or they ride bikes on roads and paths. On water, boats and ferries carry people and cars across lakes, rivers and oceans. In the air, airplanes and helicopters fly people long distances much faster than a car can go. Whether by land, water or air, transportation helps people go almost anywhere.