

# Homework/Extension

## Step 4: Paragraphs in Biographies

### National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 3: Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material  
English Year 3: Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation

### Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Varied Fluency)

**Developing** Identify whether a sentence can be added to a biography. Paragraphs to include mostly short, simple sentences.

**Expected** Identify whether a sentence can be added to a biography. Paragraphs to include a range of conjunctions to extend sentences and text.

**Greater Depth** Identify whether a sentence can be added to a biography. Paragraphs to include more complex and descriptive vocabulary including a broader range of conjunctions.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Varied Fluency)

**Developing** Choose a fact that is not included in the biography. Paragraphs to include mostly short, simple sentences. Paragraphs to include mostly short, simple sentences.

**Expected** Choose a fact that is not included in the biography.

**Greater Depth** Choose a fact that is not included in the biography. Paragraphs to include more complex and descriptive vocabulary including a broader range of conjunctions.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Application and Reasoning)

**Developing** Explain whether a statement about the order of sub-headings in a biography is correct. Paragraphs to include mostly short, simple sentences.

**Expected** Explain whether a statement about the order of sub-headings in a biography is correct. Paragraphs to include a range of conjunctions to extend sentences and text.

**Greater Depth** Explain whether a statement about the order of sub-headings in a biography is correct. Paragraphs to include more complex and descriptive vocabulary including a broader range of conjunctions.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

# Paragraphs in Biographies

## Isaac Newton

Isaac Newton was a famous British scientist and mathematician. He remains one of the most important scientists ever. He discovered the laws of gravity.

### Early Life

Isaac Newton was born on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1643 in Woolsthorpe. His father was a farmer. He died before Isaac was born. Isaac was an only child. He was raised by his grandparents. His mum remarried and her husband did not want a stepson.

After her husband's death, Isaac's mum wanted him to help on the farm. She took him out of school to do this. He was not a good farmer. He did not like farming and wanted to go back to school. His headmaster eventually convinced his mum to let him return.

### Education

Isaac was not a good student as a young boy. He did not try his best. However, he began to compete with a classmate. He was determined to be better than him. This meant Isaac became an excellent student and was top of the class.

In 1661, he moved to Cambridge to begin his degree at Trinity College. He studied maths, science and astronomy. Isaac had to study in isolation for two years because of the plague. He finished his degree in 1665.

### Work

In 1669, Isaac became a lecturer at Cambridge University. He was not very good at this job. He was more interested in doing his own research. He did not have many students attend the lessons he was teaching.

1. True or false? The sentence below could be added to the 'Education' section.

Issac Newton discovered that white light is made up of lots of different colours.



VF  
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2. Which statement is NOT included in the text?

A. Isaac had a stepfather.

B. Isaac never married.



VF  
HW/Ext

3. Ivy wants to add a section about Isaac Newton's scientific discoveries. She says that this section can go before the 'Early Life' section.

Is she correct? Explain your answer.



AR  
HW/Ext

# Paragraphs in Biographies

## Emma Watson

Emma Watson is a British actress, most famous for her role as Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter film series. She is also an active campaigner for women's rights.

### Early Life

Emma was born in Paris on the 15<sup>th</sup> April 1990 to Jacqueline Luesby and Chris Watson. They were both lawyers in the city. She lived in Paris until she was five when her parents divorced. At this time, she moved to Oxfordshire where she lived with her mother and younger brother, Alex. Emma's father later remarried and had three more children. These are Emma's half siblings.

### Acting

Emma's mother, Jacqueline, realised that her daughter enjoyed acting from a very early age. Because of this, Jacqueline took Emma to the Stagecoach Theatre School where she began to learn to act. Emma also went to the Dragon School in Oxford. Here, she was part of many different school plays.

In 1999, Emma became famous when she auditioned for her role in the first film of the Harry Potter series. When she accepted the part, she didn't know how much her life was going to change. Before this, she had led a simple life. After the actors in Harry Potter were announced, Emma Watson became a well-known name. Once her role as Hermione Granger was finished, she took on roles in several other films. She played the part of Belle in the live-action remake of Beauty and the Beast.

### Academics

Emma, like her character Hermione, was a good student. She enjoyed learning and worked hard during her time in school. Once she began filming Harry Potter, she no longer went to school. She was tutored whilst on set. As she got closer to her GCSE exams, Emma studied for over five hours a day. She achieved 2 As and 8 A\*s. She later went to university in America where she studied English Literature. She also studied for a year at Oxford University before graduating from Brown University in 2014.

1. True or false? The sentence below could be added to the 'Early Life' section.

Emma auditioned for the role of Hermione Granger eight times before she was given the part.



VF  
HW/Ext

2. Which statement about Emma Watson is NOT included in the text?

A. She started acting at age three.

B. She has four siblings.

C. She completed her degree in 2014.



VF  
HW/Ext

3. Mike wants to add a section about Emma Watson's charity work. He says that this section can go anywhere in the biography.

Is he correct? Explain your answer.



AR  
HW/Ext

# Paragraphs in Biographies

## Walt Disney

Walt Elias Disney was born on December 5<sup>th</sup> 1901 in Chicago, Illinois. Throughout his career, he created many animated films. He even planned and built the Disneyland amusement park in California.

### Early Life

Walt Disney was born on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 1901 to Elias Disney and Flora Call. Elias was a carpenter, farmer and builder and Flora was a teacher. Walt had four older brothers and a younger sister.

When he was four, the family moved to Missouri to live on a farm. This was when he first developed his interest in drawing. As he grew up, he began to take more interest in art and even used his drawings to pay the local barber to cut his hair. The Disney family moved again four years later and settled in Chicago. Walt studied art at the Chicago Art Institute and also began drawing for his school newspaper.

### Career

After joining the Red Cross at 16, Walt Disney went to France to drive ambulances during the First World War. On his return to America, he began his career in art. During his time at an advertising company, he began to learn about animation.

Walt set up two animations companies which were both failures. On his third attempt, he created the character Mickey Mouse. He created his first film called 'Steamboat Willie' which was the first animation to be created starring Mickey and Minnie. It was also the first animation to have sound, which was recorded by Walt himself. This film was very successful and Walt began to create new characters and films. In 1932, he created the first animation using colour. Disney also began work on his first feature length film, Snow White, the same year. Everyone thought that this would fail but Disney believed in his idea. It took him five years to complete and eventually became the top film of 1938 just after it was released.

4. True or false? The sentence below could be added to the 'Career' section.

As he became more successful, Walt Disney decided to create the Disneyland amusement park which he designed himself. It opened its doors in 1955.



VF  
HW/Ext

5. Which statements about Walt Disney are NOT included in the text?

A. He had 5 siblings.

B. He grew up on a farm.

C. He began to build a second theme park.

D. He loved trains.



VF  
HW/Ext

6. Lucas wants to add a section about the death of Walt Disney. He says that this section must be the last paragraph of the biography.

Is he correct? Explain your answer.



AR  
HW/Ext

## Homework/Extension

### Paragraphs in Biographies

#### Developing

1. **False**
2. **B. Isaac never married.**
3. **Ivy is incorrect because biographies are written in chronological order and his early life is about when he was born and his childhood.**

#### Expected

4. **False**
5. **A. She started acting at age three.**
6. **Mike is incorrect. Biographies are written in chronological order which means the section about her charity work must come after the sections on acting and her education because these happen before she started her charity work.**

#### Greater Depth

7. **True**
8. **C. Walt began to build a second amusement park and D. He loved trains.**
9. **Lucas is incorrect. The death of Walt Disney must be near the end of the biography, but the last paragraph is usually a conclusion.**