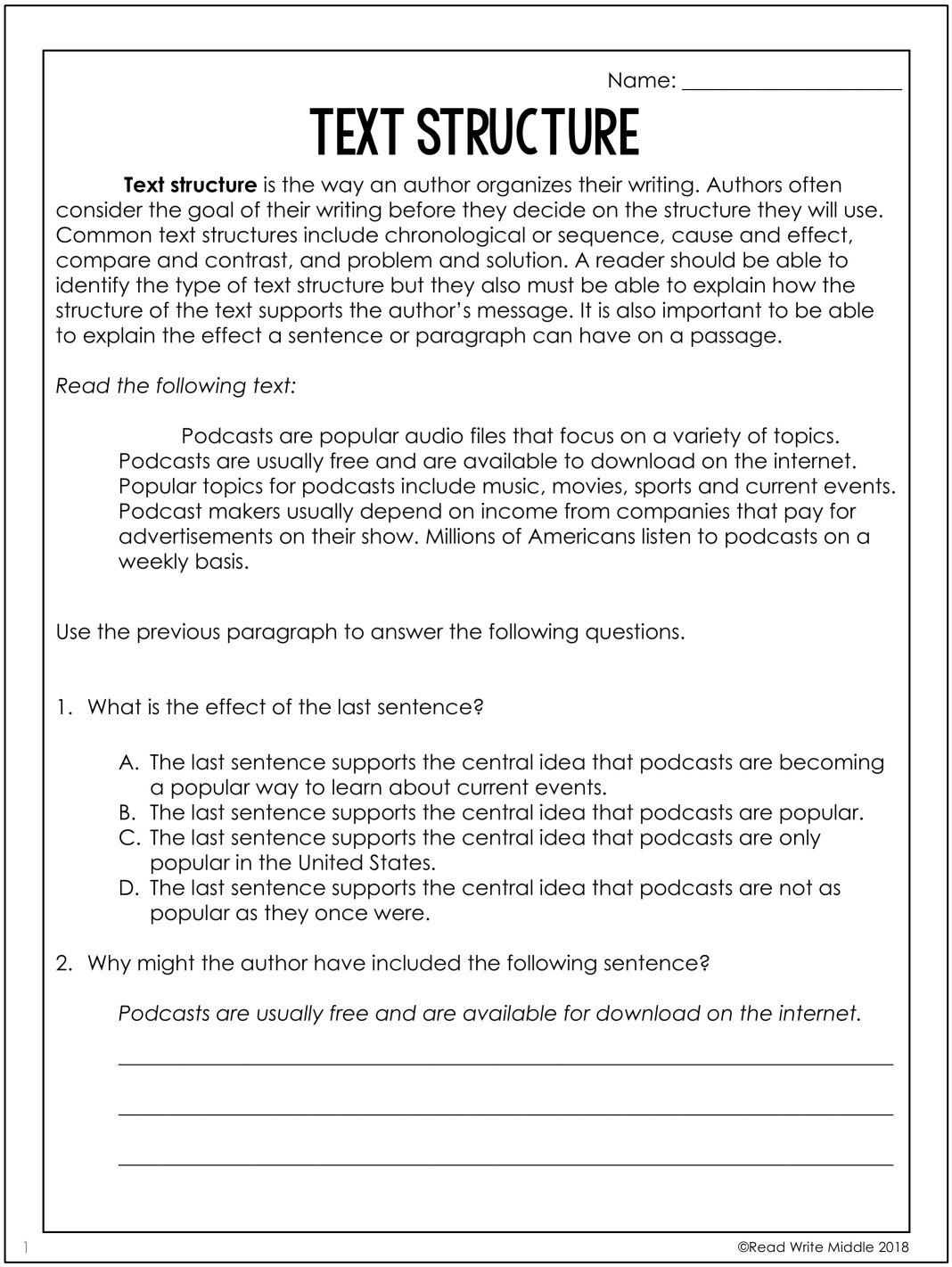
Target the Standard!



Name: _____

TEXT STRUCTURE

Text structure is the way an author organizes their writing. Authors often consider the goal of their writing before they decide on the structure they will use. Common text structures include chronological or sequence, cause and effect, compare and contrast, and problem and solution. A reader should be able to identify the type of text structure but they also must be able to explain how the structure of the text supports the author's message. It is also important to be able to explain the effect a sentence or paragraph can have on a passage.

Read the following text:

Podcasts are popular audio files that focus on a variety of topics. Podcasts are usually free and are available to download on the internet. Popular topics for podcasts include music, movies, sports and current events. Podcast makers usually depend on income from companies that pay for advertisements on their show. Millions of Americans listen to podcasts on a weekly basis.

Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

1. What is the effect of the last sentence?

   A. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are becoming a popular way to learn about current events.
   B. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are popular.
   C. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are only popular in the United States.
   D. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are not as popular as they once were.

2. Why might the author have included the following sentence?

   Podcasts are usually free and are available for download on the internet.

   _____

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Target the Standard!

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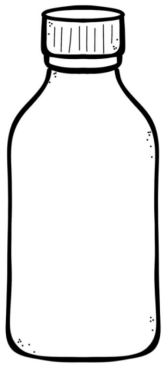
TEXT STRUCTURE



The human body is not always able to fight off certain infections caused by bacteria on its own. Pneumonia, scarlet fever and strep throat are all caused by bacteria that can lead to death if left untreated. Until recently, dying from some of these diseases was common.

Years ago, when someone became ill with an infection caused by bacteria such as pneumonia, treatment options were limited. Bloodletting was one treatment that doctors used. The sick would have blood released from their body because it was thought that too much blood caused infections.

Fortunately, the discovery of penicillin changed the treatment of these types of infections. Penicillin was accidentally discovered by Dr. Alexander Fleming in 1928. Dr. Fleming was studying petri dishes that were filled with bacteria. Some of the petri dishes were accidentally contaminated with a certain mold. The bacteria that had been contaminated with mold didn't grow normally. Dr. Fleming realized the importance of his finding and quickly worked to repeat his discovery.

Although it would be years until penicillin became widely available, its discovery changed the world. During World War II, soldiers were easily treated with penicillin for diseases that were considered deadly just a few years before. Today, penicillin and other antibiotics are regularly used to treat illnesses.

1. How does the structure of the passage help support its central idea?

   A. The chronological structure shows the significance of the discovery of penicillin.

   B. The chronological structure shows how deadly some infections were.

   C. The compare and contrast structure shows the significance of the discovery of penicillin.

   D. The compare and contrast structure shows how deadly some infections were.

2. What is the impact of the second paragraph?

   A. It shows that there were effective treatment options before penicillin.

   B. It shows how penicillin was discovered.

   C. It explains that bloodletting was a very successful treatment.

   D. It shows how limited treatment options were before the discovery of penicillin.

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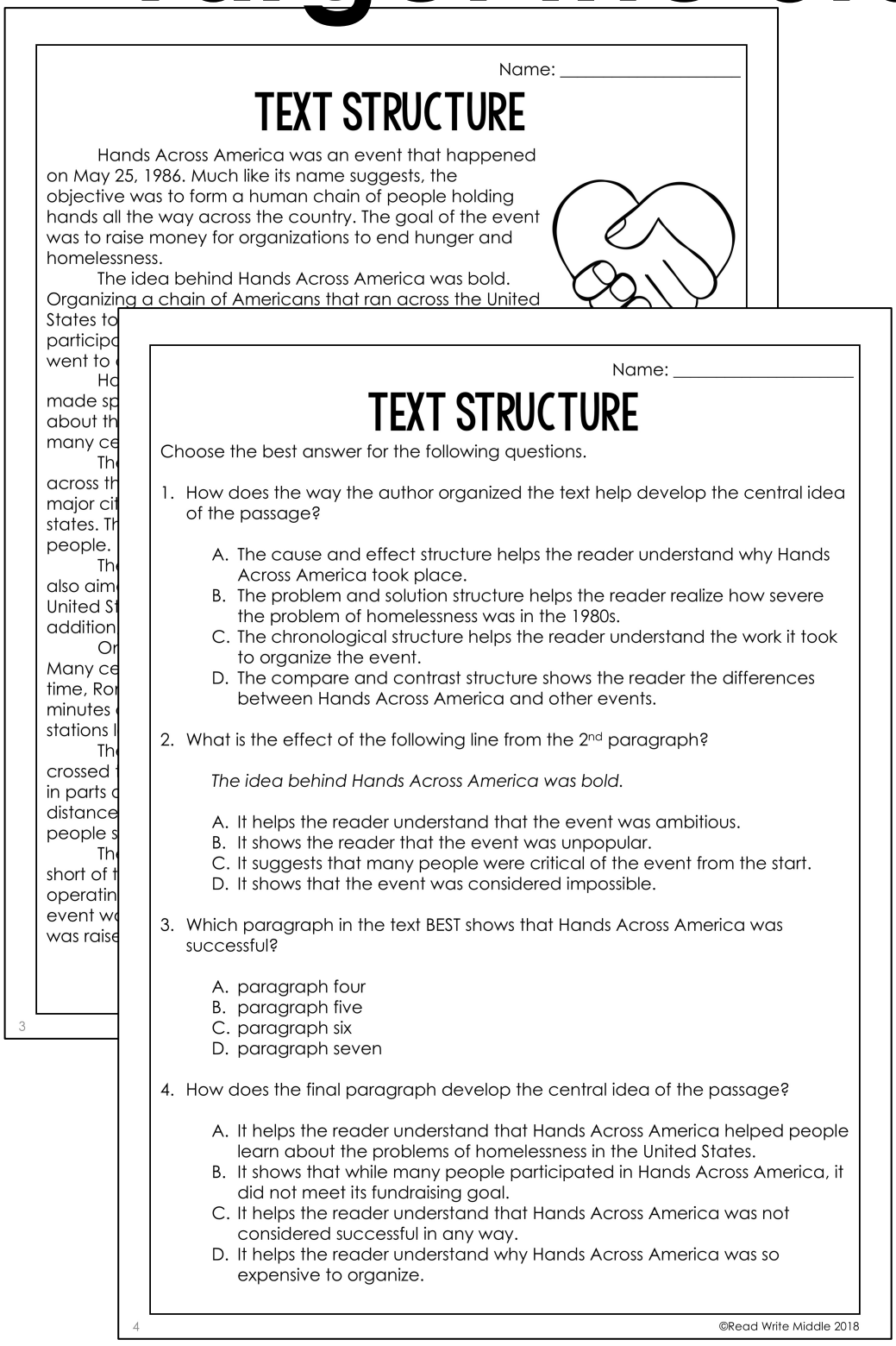
Target the Standard!



Name: _____

TEXT STRUCTURE

Hands Across America was an event that happened on May 25, 1986. Much like its name suggests, the objective was to form a human chain of people holding hands all the way across the country. The goal of the event was to raise money for organizations to end hunger and homelessness.

The idea behind Hands Across America was bold. Organizing a chain of Americans that ran across the United States to

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Name: _____

TEXT STRUCTURE

Choose the best answer for the following questions.

1. How does the way the author organized the text help develop the central idea of the passage?

   A. The cause and effect structure helps the reader understand why Hands Across America took place.
   B. The problem and solution structure helps the reader realize how severe the problem of homelessness was in the 1980s.
   C. The chronological structure helps the reader understand the work it took to organize the event.
   D. The compare and contrast structure shows the reader the differences between Hands Across America and other events.

2. What is the effect of the following line from the 2nd paragraph?

   The idea behind Hands Across America was bold.

   A. It helps the reader understand that the event was ambitious.
   B. It shows the reader that the event was unpopular.
   C. It suggests that many people were critical of the event from the start.
   D. It shows that the event was considered impossible.

3. Which paragraph in the text BEST shows that Hands Across America was successful?

   A. paragraph four
   B. paragraph five
   C. paragraph six
   D. paragraph seven

4. How does the final paragraph develop the central idea of the passage?

   A. It helps the reader understand that Hands Across America helped people learn about the problems of homelessness in the United States.
   B. It shows that while many people participated in Hands Across America, it did not meet its fundraising goal.
   C. It helps the reader understand that Hands Across America was not considered successful in any way.
   D. It helps the reader understand why Hands Across America was so expensive to organize.

4

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INFERENCES

Preview

[illegible] text. [illegible] needs [illegible] order to understand a text. [illegible] are reading. An **inference** is a logical conclusion based on evidence in the text, as well as the reader's own knowledge. An inference will never be directly stated in the text. There should be evidence in the text to support any inference that is made.

Read the following text:

People had been attempting to create a mobile or wireless telephone since the early 1900s. Phones that could make calls from cars existed as early as the 1940s. Only a small percentage of the population used early versions of car phones. Companies continued to work on the development of a completely mobile phone. In the 1970s, a phone company employee made a call to a rival company from a wireless phone. This was considered the first completely mobile phone call made in the United States.

One inference that can be made is that companies knew there would be interest in a mobile or wireless phone.

What evidence in the text supports this inference?

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Preview

Which [illegible] the following inferences is supported [illegible] evidence in the paragraph?

A. The development of mobile phones was a quick and inexpensive process.
B. Car phones were too expensive for many people.
C. Only one company was interested in the development of a mobile phone.
D. It was unlikely that many people would be interested in purchasing a mobile phone.

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CENTRAL IDEAS & SUPPORTING DETAILS

Preview

[illegible] Authors [illegible] follow. The **central idea** of a text is what the paragraph or passage is mostly about. Details that support the central idea are called **supporting details**. Supporting details should be directly related to the central idea. Supporting details are generally more specific than the central idea.

Read the following text:

When someone doesn't feel well, they will often take some type of medication to help make them feel better. They may just go to a local store and buy medication if their symptoms aren't serious. If their condition is more serious, they could choose to see a doctor who can prescribe medication. People who take medication know that whatever they are taking has been tested to make sure it is safe and effective.

Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

1. What is the central idea of the paragraph?

Preview

A. Medications are generally safe and available to help make people feel better.
B. When [illegible] a doctor.
C. [illegible] people that take them.
D. Doctors prescribe [illegible] people [illegible].

2. List two details from the passage that support the central idea.

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INTERACTIONS IN TEXT

Preview

[illegible] influenced [illegible] determine the **interactions** between **events**, **individuals** and **ideas** [illegible] interactions have played [illegible] The Wright Brothers were influenced by their ideas about the possibility of flight. This led to the invention of the airplane.

Read the following text:

Unlike some inventions, the creation of the television cannot be traced to one person. There were multiple people who felt that it was possible to send images through the air. The radio was their inspiration. The radio, which was a common item in U.S. households by the 1930s, provided evidence that sounds could be transmitted through the air. Inventors of the television felt confident that this could apply to images as well. They worked hard to make this idea a reality.

Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

1. What role did the existence of the radio play in the creation of the television?

Preview

A. Inventors working on the creation of the television saw the failure of the radio [illegible].
B. [illegible] the radio during the research [illegible].
C. The success of [illegible] something that was just as successful.
D. Inventors of the radio felt that images could be transmitted just as sound was.

2. Cite specific evidence from the text that supports your answer to #1.

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WORD CHOICE

Preview

[illegible] choose [illegible] how the words [illegible] the text. Authors will sometimes use a word or phrase in a **figurative** way. Figurative language [illegible] Metaphors and similes are examples of figurative language. Authors also use words based on their **connotative** meanings. A word's connotation is the feelings and ideas that a word suggests in addition to its literal meaning. For example, cheap and inexpensive mean the same thing, but cheap has a negative connotation. Specific word choices can have an important effect on the meaning and tone of a passage.

Read the following text:

Companies spend a large amount of money every year on advertising. Their goal, of course, is to get you to spend money on their products. Advertisers can sometimes be misleading in a disgusting attempt to trick you into spending money on their terrible products. The only reason some companies stop short of outright lying about the quality of their products is because there are consequences for their actions.

Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

1. How does the author's word choice affect the tone of the passage?

Preview

A. Words such as [illegible] create [illegible] passage.
B. Words such as *disgusting* and [illegible] create a negative [illegible] passage.
C. Words such as *misleading* and *lying* create a positive tone in the passage.
D. Words such as *misleading* and *trick* create a thoughtful tone in the passage.

2. What other words in the passage support the tone you chose for #1? Explain your answer.

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Name: ______________________

TEXT STRUCTURE

Preview

[illegible] consider [illegible] goal [illegible] will use. Common text structures include chronological, sequence, cause and effect, compare and contrast, and problem and solution. A reader should be able to identify the type of text structure but they also must be able to explain how the structure of the text supports the author's message. It is also important to be able to explain the effect a sentence or paragraph can have on a passage.

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Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

1. What is the effect of the last sentence?

Preview

A. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are becoming [illegible].
B. The last sentence [illegible] popular.
C. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are [illegible] popular in the United States.
D. The last sentence supports the central idea that podcasts are not as popular as they once were.

2. Why might the author have included the following sentence?

Podcasts are usually free and are available for download on the internet.

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Name: ______________________

POINT OF VIEW & PURPOSE

Preview

[illegible] is known as **point** of view or **perspective** [illegible] on a topic, a reader must closely analyze the information the author includes, as well as their word choice [illegible] the author's point of view. The **author's purpose** in writing is often closely tied to their perspective on a topic. For example, if an author agrees with an idea, they may write something in order to persuade other people to agree as well.

Read the following text:

The benefits of team sports for kids far outweigh any risks. Team sports help children get regular exercise, which has many benefits. Team sports help children learn important skills like teamwork and time management. Kids who participate in team sports are often more confident and have opportunities to build friendships with people they wouldn't otherwise know. All parents should seriously consider signing their child up for a team sport.

Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

1. Which sentence from the paragraph BEST shows the author's purpose?

Preview

A. "The benefits of team sports for kids far outweigh any risks."
B. "Kids who participate in team sports are often more confident and have opportunities to build friendships with people they wouldn't otherwise know."
C. "All parents should seriously consider signing their child up for a team sport."
D. "Team sports help children get regular exercise, which has many benefits."

2. The author uses specific words that help show their perspective on team sports. Identify two words that show the author's perspective on team sports and explain how they show the author's perspective.

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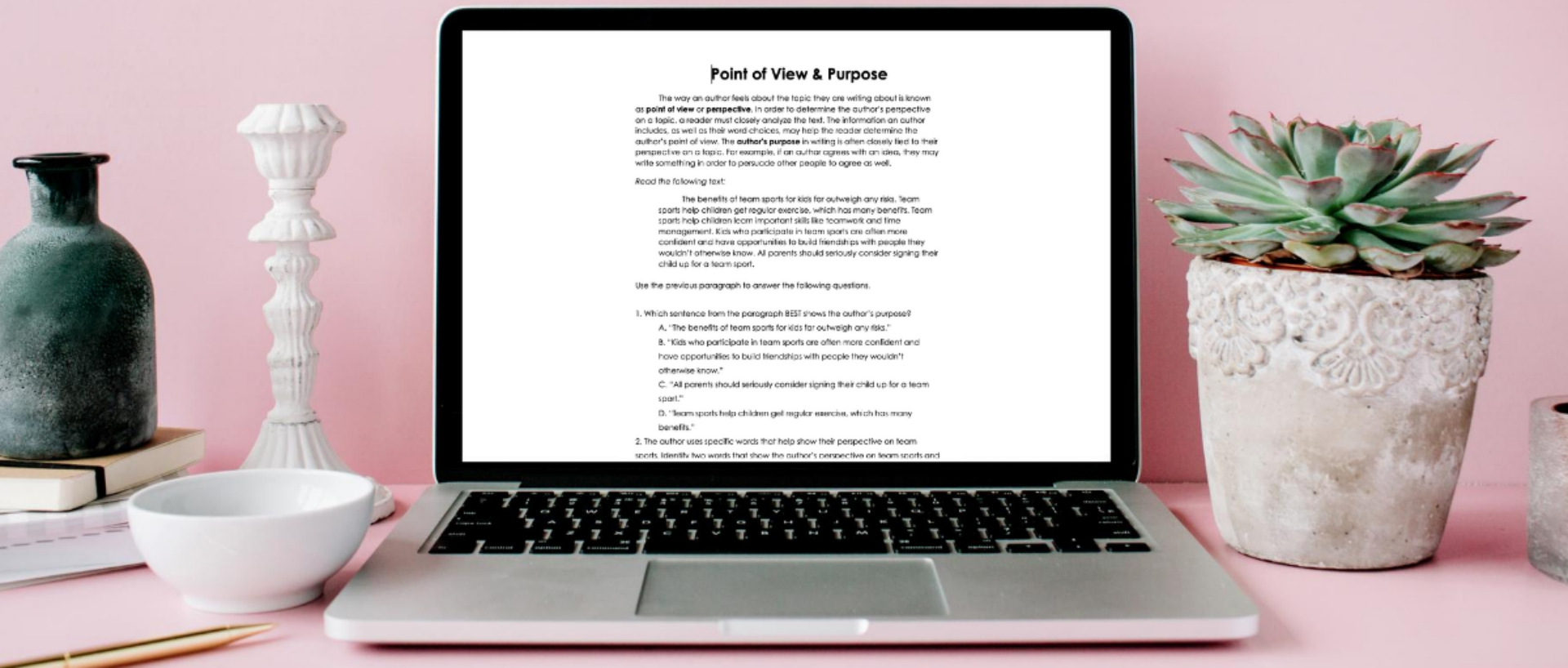
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