

Introduction

NAME _____

Lesson 1 The Writing Process

Good writing starts with a plan. The best writers use the steps in the writing process to plan their writing. Following these five steps leads to good writing.

Step 1: Prewrite

Think of this step as the time to plan. Writers might choose a topic at this point. Or, they might list everything they know about a chosen topic. They might also write down what they need to learn about a topic. Writers might make lists that contain sentences, words, pictures, or charts to begin to put their ideas in order.

Step 2: Draft

Writers put their ideas on paper. This first draft contains sentences and paragraphs. Checking the prewriting notes will help keep the main ideas in order. There will be mistakes in this first draft, and that's okay.

Step 3: Revise

Writers change or fix their first draft. They might decide to move ideas around, put them in a different order, or add information. They make sure they used clear words that really show readers what they mean. Writers might also take out words or sentences that do not belong.

Step 4: Proofread

Next, writers look over their work again to make sure everything is correct. They look especially for capital letters, end marks, and words that are not spelled correctly.

Step 5: Publish

Finally, writers write a final copy that has no mistakes. They are now ready to share their writing. They might choose to read their work out loud or to create a book. There are many ways for writers to publish their work.

Lesson 1 The Writing Process

What does the writing process look like? Melanie used the writing process to write a paragraph about her grandmother. The steps below are out of order. Label each step with a number and the name of the step.

Step _____ : _____

Saturday afternoons are my favorite time. I go too my grandma's house then. We bake cookies. Usually, we bake our favorites. each week, we write a recipe on a card and put it in a box. Grandma is saving the recipes just for me.

Step _____ : _____

Saturday afternoons are my favorite time. I go to^s my grandma's house then. We bake cookies. Usually, we bake our favorites. each week, we write a special recipe on a card and put it in a box. Grandma is saving the recipes just for me.

Step _____ : _____

cookies

special recipes

Saturday afternoons

Step _____ : _____

Saturday afternoons are my favorite time. I go to my grandma's house then. We bake cookies. Usually, we bake our favorites. Each week, we write a special recipe on a card and put it in a box. Grandma is saving the recipes just for me.

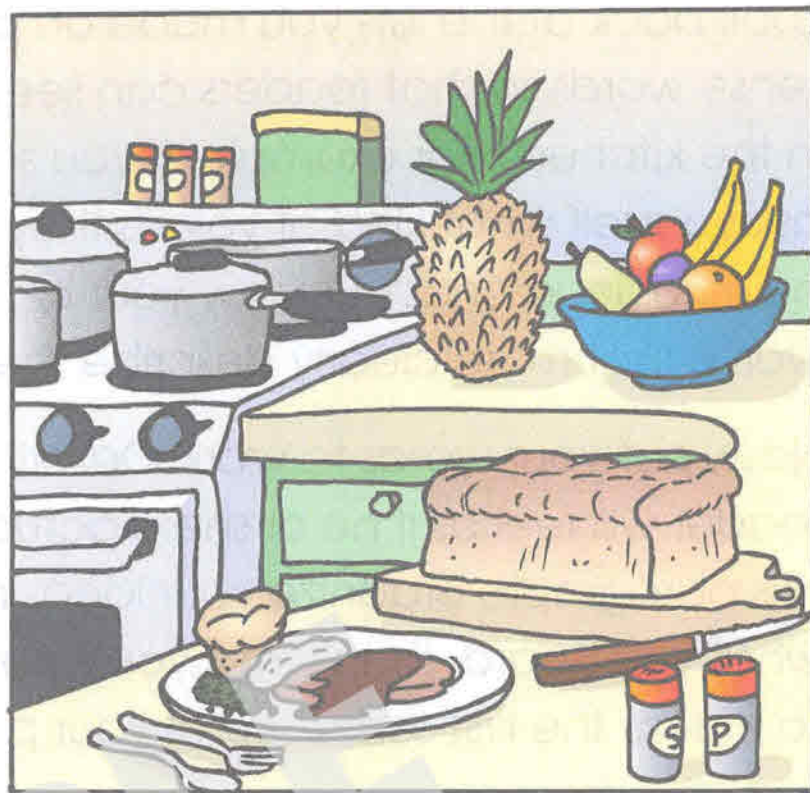
Step _____ : _____

Saturday afternoons are my favorite time. I go too my grandma's house then. We bake cookies. Usually, we bake our favorites. each week, we write a ^{special} recipe on a card and put it in a box. Grandma is saving the recipes just for me.

Chapter 1

Lesson 1 Use Your Senses

If you were standing in this kitchen, just think what would be around you. You would see the steaming plates of food and hear the clattering of pans. You would surely smell a mixture of foods lined up on the smooth countertop. And, if you were lucky, you would get to taste something salty, spicy, or sweet. In other words, you would learn about the kitchen by using all five of your senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, touching, and tasting.



If you were to describe this kitchen to someone else, you should use all five of your senses. How do you use your senses when you write? You use words that help readers use their senses.

Look again at the picture. What do you see? List some things here.

Remember to help your reader see things, too. For example, do you see a "large pot," or a "large, silver pot"?

What I see: _____

Now, use your other senses and write what you would hear, smell, touch, and taste in this kitchen.

What I hear: _____

What I smell: _____

What I touch: _____

What I taste: _____

Lesson 1 Use Your Senses

Look back at the lists you made on page 7. Did you remember to use good sense words so that readers can see, hear, smell, touch, and taste what is in the kitchen? For example, if you said that you hear voices in this kitchen, ask yourself what kind of voices they might be. Are they happy, angry, quiet, or loud ones? Review your list, and see if you can add any other words that more clearly describe the kitchen.

Now, put your words to work. Describe this kitchen so clearly that your reader will feel as if he or she is actually standing right in the middle of it. For this paragraph, organize your ideas by sense. First, tell what you saw, then what you heard, then what you smelled, touched, and tasted. Remember to indent the first sentence of your paragraph.
