

Lesson 6 Build Sentences and Paragraphs

You know all of these things about sentences.

- A sentence is a group of words that tells a complete thought.
- A sentence always begins with a capital letter.
- A sentence always ends with an end mark—either a period, a question mark, or an exclamation point.

When writers put sentences together in a group, it is called a paragraph. A **paragraph** tells about one topic. Read this paragraph about ferrets.



I do not think ferrets are good pets. Ferrets cost more than other small pets, such as hamsters, gerbils, or even rabbits. They require quite a large cage, which is also costly. All small pets make messes, but ferrets are messier and smellier than most. Ferrets also chew on things and may cause harm both to themselves and to the things they chew on. For these reasons, ferrets do not make good pets.

Notice that all of the sentences are about the same opinion: ferrets are not good pets. All of the sentences begin and end correctly. Also, notice that the first sentence is pushed in, or indented. Whenever you write a paragraph, you must indent the first sentence.

Read the paragraph below. The paragraph contains two errors. Find and circle them.

Hamsters are perfect pets. They do not cost very much, and they require a fairly small cage My mom likes the fact that they are quiet. I like the fact that I feed them once a day and clean their cage once a week. best of all, it is fun to watch hamsters play in their tunnels.

