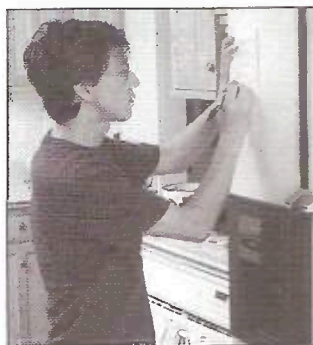
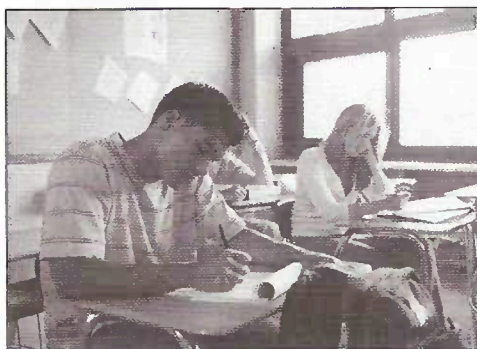


PART 1

Stimulating Ideas



Exercise 1 **Thinking about the topic**

Discuss the pictures with a partner.

- Look at the people writing. What kind of writing is each person doing?
- Are they writing for others or for themselves?
- What other kinds of writing can you think of?
- What kind of writing do you usually do?

Rhetorical Focus

The Paragraph

A paragraph is a group of sentences about a topic. In this book, you will learn how to organize and write the following kinds of paragraphs.

- In a **descriptive paragraph** the writer describes a person, a place, or a thing.
- In an **example paragraph** the writer explains a topic by giving examples.

- In a **process paragraph** the writer explains how to do something step by step.
- In an **opinion paragraph** the writer expresses his or her feelings, ideas, and opinions about a topic.
- In a **narrative paragraph** the writer tells a story.

Formatting a Paragraph

Margins

A paragraph must have a margin on the right and a margin on the left. This means that the paragraph begins 1 inch or 1 1/4 inches from the edge of the paper.

Spacing

A paragraph should be double-spaced.

Indenting

The first sentence of a paragraph must be indented. This means that it begins five spaces in from the left margin. Indenting shows the reader that a new paragraph is beginning. On a computer, you can indent with the Tab key.

Connected Sentences

The sentences in a paragraph should follow each other. It is not a paragraph if every sentence begins on a new line. A well-supported paragraph has at least 5 sentences and often more.

Title

A paragraph by itself usually has a title. This is one word or a group of words that tells what the topic is.

Exercise 2 Identifying the elements of a paragraph

Read the paragraph. Then label the formatting elements of the paragraph. Use the words in the box.

a. margin b. double spacing c. indent d. title

1. _____ → **Red**
2. _____ → I love the color red. No other color symbolizes so many different emotions and experiences. Life would be very boring without the color
3. _____ → red. Fires would not burn in the same way. The sunset would not be interesting, and blood would not be so surprisingly beautiful. Red is
4. _____ → powerful when it appears in nature, and it is also powerful when it appears in our emotions. Red is love. Red is anger. Red is beauty. I like to live life in a strong way, so I think I will always admire the color red.

In Part 2 you will ...

- learn about paragraph organization