

Describing a Friend or Family Member (TEACHER)

1. Vocabulary

Students choose a friend or family member and brainstorm and write down key words and/or short phrases about their chosen person.

2. Sentences

Students write complete sentences based on the key words/phrases they came up with.

3. Paragraph (draft 1)

The teacher should introduce students to proper paragraph formatting (including indenting, capitalization and wrapping text). Students write draft 1.

4. Checklist

The teacher should encourage students to check their own draft 1 paragraphs and a partner's for proper formatting. Students' paragraphs should be properly formatted before they go on to the next step.

5. Pair editing

After introducing and practicing the correction symbols (for which a separate worksheet is available), the teacher should have students exchange paragraphs. Partners should read each other's paragraph and write correction symbols where appropriate. It is recommended that symbols be written in pencil. Peer editing will be challenging for many students, so the teacher should circulate a lot to help peer editors as they work. When peer editing is finished, partners return the paragraph to the writer.

6. Paragraph (draft 2)

Students should correct mistakes and re-write their paragraphs.