

KENWORTHY'S KORNER

Schweinfurt Elementary School • Ms. Lagasse's 4th Grade Class • March 23, 2006

What a Character!

The students in Ms. Lagasse's class are thinking of someone special in their life, and coming up with three character traits (adjectives) to describe that person.

First, to come up with a character trait, they think about some of the special things that person has done and ask themselves, "What kind of person would do that?"

For each character trait they pick, they have to come up with 3 pieces of evidence to support it. Evidence is something that person did which proves he/she has that character trait.

Some of the character traits we have come up with are: caring, friendly, compassionate, kind, helpful, wise, generous (giving), responsible, calm, determined, fun, intelligent, and brave. We are categorizing the things our special person has done into evidence for three different character traits.

Next, we organize our character trait categories and supporting evidence on a 4-Square, and then use the 4-Square to help us write a 5-paragraph Friendly Letter to this special person.



What is 4-Square Writing?

It was a dark and stormy night.



4-Square TIP: 1., 2., 3., and 4. refer to the sentence order in the paragraph.

Paragraph 2

1. Category

- 2. ●
- 3. ● details/examples
- 4. ●

Paragraph 3

1. Category

- 2. ●
- 3. ● details/examples
- 4. ●

Paragraph 1

Introduce Main Idea of Paper

Paragraph 4

1. Category

- 2. ●
- 3. ● details/examples
- 4. ●

Paragraph 5

Concluding Paragraph: (restate main idea and the three categories)

How do we turn the 4-Square into a 5-Paragraph paper?

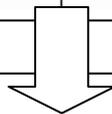
1. The center box: First paragraph (This introduces the topic/main idea. It tells us what the whole paper will be about. For now, we are letting this just be one sentence.)
2. The top left square: Second paragraph
3. The top right square: Third paragraph
4. The bottom left square: Fourth paragraph
5. The bottom right square: Last paragraph (This is our conclusion. It does not give us any new information. It is one sentence that mentions the main idea (from the center box), and lists the 3 detail categories (the words that are in the boxes of the other 3 squares). For now, we are letting this just be one sentence.)

The middle paragraphs tell us about 3 different details of the main idea/topic introduced in the first paragraph. If you look at the first sentence of each of these paragraphs, it will tell you what detail that whole paragraph will be about.

Our example is on back →

Here is an example of how we turn our 4-Square into a 5-paragraph paper:

<p>To begin with,</p> <p><u>Generous and Loving</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <u>Fun family vacations all over country</u>● <u>Visiting me in Germany</u>● <u>Make me feel loved and appreciated</u>	<p>In addition,</p> <p><u>Helpful and Calm</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <u>Taught me how to speed skate</u>● <u>Helped me with my math homework</u>● <u>Always know what to do when something goes wrong</u>
<p>I am glad that you have so many good character traits.</p>	
<p>Also,</p> <p><u>Intelligent and Responsible</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <u>Electrical engineer - work on products for military</u>● <u>Know how to budget your money</u>● <u>Make wise decisions</u>	<p>As you can see,</p> <p><u>I appreciate you being my dad</u></p> <p><u>because you are loving, helpful, and</u></p> <p><u>responsible.</u></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



March 17, 2006

Dear Dad,

I am glad that you have so many good character traits.

To begin with, you are generous and loving. I still remember all of the fun vacations you planned for our family. You are even coming to visit me in Germany. You always make me feel loved and appreciated.

In addition, you are helpful and calm. For example, you taught me how to speed skate. Something else you did was stay calm when helping me with math homework that I didn't understand! No matter what I do, you always know what to do when something goes wrong, and you never look stressed.

Also, you are intelligent and responsible. As one example, you work as an electrical engineer to design products for the military. For another example, you know how to budget your money. I think you make wise decisions.

As you can see, I appreciate you being my dad because you are loving, helpful, and responsible.

Lovingly, ...