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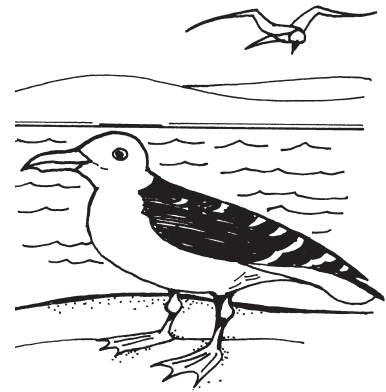
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# Assessment: Paragraph Organization and Proofread and Edit

➤ Read the paragraph and answer the questions below. Fill in the circles beside the correct answers.

## My Day at the Seashore

(1) Among my favorite places to visit is the beach. (2) I would not want to live there because I would not want to be cleaning sand out of my clothes and other belongings all the time. (3) It is a place where I can enjoy a variety of activities. (4) One of the things I like to do is to tease the waves. (5) By that I mean that I like to walk as close to the water as I can and still avoid getting wet. (6) However, I have been caught more than once by a wave that moves like a phantom. (7) A phantom wave is a wave that suddenly comes farther in to shore than the others. (8) Before I realize it. (9) Another thing I like to do is pick up unusual looking rocks. (10) At Mora Beach I found a rock that looks like an ice-cream cone. (11) The cone part is dark gray. (12) The ice-cream part is white. (13) I think I was really lucky to find such an odd rock. (14) Finally, I enjoy watching the birds. (15) The smaller water birds scurry around looking for good things to eat as they follow the waves that recede like retreating armies. (16) The larger birds such as the great blue herons stand still with their heads turned so that one eye is focused on the water as they search for prey. (17) My day at the seashore seems incomplete if I am not chased by a phantom wave, do not discover a rock that seems different from all the others, and no birds come to visit while I am there.



- Which one of these words is used as a transition in sentence 4?  
 (a) waves       (b) do       (c) tease       (d) One
- Which one of the following sentences is a detail that can be omitted from the paragraph?  
 (a) 9       (b) 3       (c) 2       (d) 14
- Which group contains all three of the words misspelled in the paragraph?  
 (a) phantom, different, discover       (c) recede, scurry, activities  
 (b) variety, heron, tease       (d) different, recede, activities
- Which one of the following sentences restates the main idea of the paragraph?  
 (a) Sand and rocks are some of the writer's favorite items.  
 (b) A good day is one spent with the waves, rocks, and birds at the ocean's shore.  
 (c) Water birds are nearly always hungry when they are on the beach.  
 (d) The writer's favorite ice-cream flavor is rocky road.

# Sample Outline for a Three-Paragraph Essay

“My Day at the Seashore” on page 18 is an expository paragraph because it explains or gives reason why the author enjoys a day at the beach. It is possible to use the contents of a single paragraph to develop a three-paragraph or five-paragraph essay.

- The following is an outline for a three-paragraph essay based on “My Day at the Seashore.” Compare the essay outline with the paragraph. Notice the added supporting details.

- I. Among my favorite places to visit is the beach.**
  - A. There are several nearby beaches I can easily go to.**
  - B. The beach offers me several different things to do.**
- II. Some of the things I enjoy are teasing the waves, picking up unusual rocks, and watching the water birds.**
  - A. I like to walk as close to the edge of the water as possible without getting wet.**
    - 1. I watch the waves closely and scamper away as they get close to me.**
    - 2. Sometimes I get caught by a phantom wave.**
      - a. A phantom wave is one that surprises me.**
      - b. It is a wave that suddenly, without warning, comes in farther than the others.**
  - B. Picking up unusual rocks has become a hobby of mine.**
    - 1. Recently, at Mora Beach I found a rock that looks like an ice-cream cone.**
      - a. The bottom part that is shaped like a cone is a rough, gray stone.**
      - b. The top part that represents the ice cream is a rounded white stone.**
    - 2. One of my favorite rocks found at beaches is the colorful agate.**
  - C. Watching the shorebirds hunt for food is a pleasurable pastime.**
    - 1. The smaller birds scurry after the waves to find the food that has washed ashore.**
    - 2. The larger birds like the great blue heron are more dignified, standing patiently and waiting for their prey to swim by.**
- III. Being chased by phantom waves, picking up odd rocks, and watching the birds makes my day at the seashore just perfect.**
  - A. These are things I can do at nearly any beach I visit.**
  - B. The rocks, especially, help me remember each day by the seashore.**

## Outline Form Notes

Notice the form of an outline. The major divisions are indicated by Roman numerals. Capital letters are the next division, the third is Arabic numerals, and the fourth is lowercase letters. Each division contains more detailed information about the one before it.

Each division after the Roman numerals is indented. Numbers and letters of the same division are kept in a straight line down the page. A period is used after every number and letter.

Every outline must have at least two Roman numeral divisions. If there is an A division after a Roman numeral division, there must also be at least a B. If there is a 1 after an A or B or C, etc., there must also be a 2. If there is an a after a 1 or 2 or 3, there must also be a b.

Use the outlines on this page and the next page as guides when you compose your own outline in preparation for writing an essay.