

Organising Paragraphs within Texts

Read the following text, then answer the questions below.

Manish had done all he could to persuade Yana that it was not a good idea for them to sneak into the circus tent the night before the grand opening. Yana, however, was stubborn and braver than Manish. She was too persuasive for him to win that battle. Now here they were, looking around a tent on a dark and starless night.

Manish searched his pockets frantically for his little keyring torch. He was desperate to find any way of lighting the dark surrounding him. The dark struck a fear into his very core.

Meanwhile, Yana had already walked right into the centre circle of the circus and was fearlessly play-acting her role as circus ringleader. She could barely see the arena seating through the dark, but she didn't care.

Eventually, Manish found his torch and shone a light into the centre of the tent. He felt a slight twinge of relief as the thin beam of faint light struck upon his friend. His relief quickly turned to another feeling altogether. Who was that walking up behind her?

1. Write the adverbial used to open the final paragraph.

Identify the type of this adverbial. Put 'X' in the correct box.

Time

Place

Frequency

2. Which word is repeated in the second paragraph to emphasise it as a key word in the narrative?

3. True or false? If the second and third paragraphs were swapped, the story would still make sense. Explain your answer.

4. Write the pronouns and possessive determiners that the writer has used in the final paragraph to help link the paragraphs together.

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Read the following text, then answer the questions below.

Angelo could not find anything to persuade him to pick up his brush and begin painting again. He knew that he had not caused the hospital to burn down. He knew he had not caused the town's river to run dry. He knew the death of his unborn son was not caused by his painting. Each tragic thing had coincided with the timing of the completion of his paintings. It made no sense for him to link his work with these unrelated disasters. He painted the hospital his son would be born in. He painted the river they would play in together. He painted his beautiful pregnant wife. He painted the things he loved and he loved the things he painted. Now that had all changed.

A long time ago, Angelo had painted many things without trouble. He had painted famous architecture, royals and all kinds of landscapes, and nothing bad ever followed. Angelo liked to paint the beautiful things in the world. He painted happiness and things that brought him joy. Angelo's paintings on canvas had a way of painting a smile on his own face, even when times were tough. Nonetheless, the tragedy of the happy artist is that he cannot paint over real life tragedy. That has a way of finding even those who fill their surroundings with lightness and colour.

Today, Angelo decided he was going to stop reflecting on the things he could do nothing to change. He was going to head out. He had ideas and he still had some things he could salvage. Angelo stepped outside. He breathed in the cool air and tried to freshen his mind.

5. Rewrite the sentence below, changing the adverbial without changing the meaning.

A long time ago, Angelo had painted many things without trouble.

6. Write the next sentence in the story, starting with the sentence opener below.

Later,

7. Why might the writer have chosen to repeat the word tragedy throughout the text?