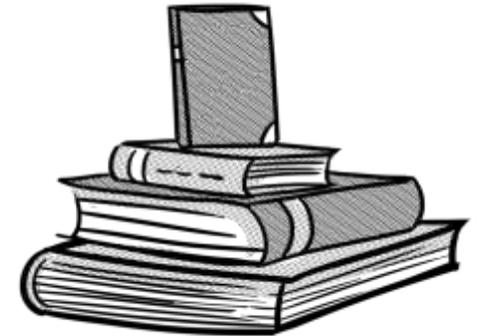**LORIC Task**

Think of a favourite film or book. Can you explain why you like it so much within 15 seconds? Try to make sure you do not use vague reasons like, "Because it's brilliant!"

Do you think your partner would be able to explain why you liked it, based on what you've said?

Organised writing – fiction

Writing needs to be organised. Otherwise, it's difficult to make sense of it.

There are various ways in which we can organise our ideas when we are writing fiction. These include:
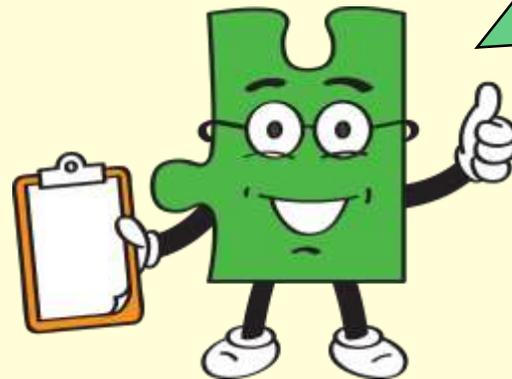
- paragraphs
- chapters
- beginning
- middle
- end.

Organised writing – non fiction

With non-fiction writing, there are even more ways to organise our writing. Here are some of the things we can use:

- paragraphs
- chapters
- introduction
- conclusion
- sections
- fact boxes
- headings and subheadings.

Can you think of any more organising tricks?

Paragraphs

Paragraphs tend to contain information or action that fits within the same subject, place or period of time.

If you have chosen one of these reasons to start a new paragraph, you should be able to explain it to someone. Even better, you could make it clear by using conjunctions, pronouns or other linking words and phrases.

I decided to change paragraph because the action had moved to another place.

Perhaps you could have written something like, "On the other side of the woods …"

Beginnings and ends

To make sense of anything, it helps to know where it starts and where it ends. This is true of both fiction and non-fiction writing.

Fiction
You can explain this for a fiction text by saying that you need to introduce your readers to the characters and settings at the **beginning**. This allows them to get a good feel for where they are and who the main people involved are.

After the action has finished, you need to tie up the loose ends and give your readers an idea of how life carries on from here. This is what is often called the **resolution**.

Beginnings and ends

Non-fiction

Just like stories need a beginning to give readers a good idea of what the starting point is, so do information texts. That is why they usually have a general **introduction** to let readers know the sort of topics that will be covered.

After all the information has been laid out, they often have a **conclusion**, either to recap what has been said or simply to sign-post that the text is coming to a satisfying end.

As a writer, you need to plan your writing so that you know what you are going to write and can explain why you have organised your text that way.
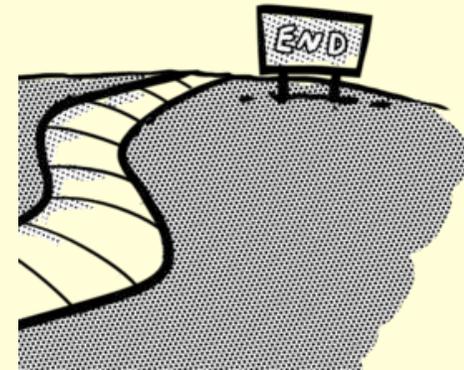
In the middle

Fiction

Stories need to be organised in a way that helps readers follow the plot without getting confused. Often, that will involve a **build up**, where things start to happen to the characters, followed by a main **problem** or **challenge** which the characters typically overcome in the **climax**.

Once again, a plan is essential for organising your ideas. This will also enable you to explain why the events have happened in that way. So, essentially, a typical story plot will be organised like this:

beginning ➡ **build up** ➡ **events** ➡ **problem** ➡ **climax** ➡ **resolution**

In the middle

Non-fiction

In texts such as non-chronological reports, there will be mini topics within the overall subject. These should be organised into sections which contain all the information connected to that mini topic. These sections should feature one or more paragraphs. It is usually also helpful to guide readers by giving each mini topic a **subheading**.

introduction ➡️ **topic 1** ➡️ **topic 2** ➡️ **topic 3 (etc)** ➡️ **conclusion**

Other interesting ideas that don't necessarily fall into these sections can be added separately as stand-alone **fact boxes**.

Other text types

There are, of course, many other text types. All of these are organised in their own particular ways. However, they will follow basic ideas of organisation similar to those mentioned so far.

For example, here is a plan for a recount.

Title
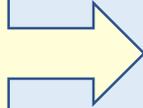
Introduction

1st event

2nd event

3rd event

Conclusion

Other text types

This is how we could explain how it is organised.

Sets the scene

Title

Introduction

1st event

2nd event

3rd event

Conclusion

Events outline what happened in the order they happened.

Sums up what happened, often with an opinion.

Explain why this plan for a set of instructions has been organised this way.

Title

Introduction

What you need

1. instruction

2. instruction

3. instruction

How did you do?

says what you're making or doing → **Title**

Introduction ← explains something about what you're making or doing

lists what equipment or ingredients are needed → **What you need**

1. instruction

2. instruction ← describes, in the correct order, exactly what needs to be done

3. instruction

How did you do?

only needed for formal letters

polite greeting

explains reasons for writing

recaps information and often outlines what needs to happen next

their address

your address
date

salutation (Dear ...)

introduction

information

conclusion

sign off (Yours ...) + signature

shows where and when the letter was written

The main details of what it is about

confirms who the writer is

Review

- Writing needs to be organised to help readers make sense of it.
- All writing should have a clear beginning, middle and end.
- Making a plan helps you to organise your writing effectively.
- Different text types can have different features.
- You should be able to explain why you have used each feature.
- You should be able to explain why you have placed information in each feature.