

Name: _____

Organize this short story into paragraphs by inserting the sign for paragraph at the right spots: ¶. There are nine paragraph breaks. This story is effective at 266 words. It has elements of conflict and mood, setting and character.



Late one night, a 15-year old girl named Lydia was walking home from her friend's house when she turned down a narrow street to take a short cut and was startled by the sight of an old man standing in her path. When she stopped, the old man turned to her and in a hoarse voice said, "Tell me the way!" His face was disgusting, his skin was covered in scars and boils, his hair stringy and unkempt, his eyes bulging horribly, almost popping out of their sockets. Lydia froze in panic. She was alone in a dark and narrow alleyway with a strange and disturbing person. Her heart began pounding and it took her a few seconds to catch her breath. "Tell me the way!" the old man croaked once more. "Ok. W-Where are you going?" asked Lydia. When the old man told her the address he was searching for, a chill ran down her spine. It was her house. "I don't know where that is," she snapped and rushed past the old man and down the alleyway. Glancing back, she could see him standing in the alley, watching her flee. Lydia was so freaked out by the incident that she didn't stop running until she got back to her house. Breathing a sigh of relief, she took out her keys. She looked up and down the street to make sure the old man hadn't followed her. It was empty. She turned the key, unlocked the door, and pushed it open. From the darkness inside her house, a hoarse voice muttered, "Tell me the way!"

Review of grammar, punctuation and writing mechanics.

Directions: Underline the entire *independent* clause in each sentence.

1. Although we know the benefits of exercise, most of us don't know that a brisk after-dinner leisurely walk can help with digestion.
2. People need to be able to share their fears, frustrations, and joys, so it's important for us to develop a group of people we can share our feelings with.
3. Whereas learning about nutrition is not difficult, having the discipline to make wise food choices is often a problem.
4. Even though you can't always control your time, it will help you to set priorities and make a daily To Do list.
5. Change your negative inner conversation whenever you realize you are being too hard on yourself.
6. So that you feel less stress and enjoy life more, develop your sense of humour.
7. Sit down with a piece of paper and create a plan for solving the problem when you find yourself worrying over one.
8. While there are many relaxation techniques, sitting quietly with your eyes closed and taking a few deep breaths will quickly calm you.
9. Develop a positive attitude, because it enables you to enjoy life more.

Write the correct tense of the verb in parentheses to create tense consistency. In some cases you may need to add an auxiliary verb (have, be, do - in the right tense).

1. As soon as she saw the smoke, Laura _____ (run) into the house to save her dog.
2. Jenn _____ (throw) out the food that had been sitting in the refrigerator for weeks.
3. When you get here, the valet _____ (show) you to your room.
4. Will returned the book and _____ (get) a receipt from the clerk.
5. By the time we arrived on the scene, the cars _____ (tow) away.
6. Real estate prices have increased dramatically over the past year; I should _____ (buy) that property months ago.
7. The horse _____ (race) across the finish line as we are speaking.
8. Bill saw the movie a week after he _____ (read) the book.
9. Lulu _____ (take) ballet for three years now.
10. By the time you finish this project, we _____ (grow) very old.

Subject-verb agreement

1. Annie and her brothers (is, are) at school.
2. Either my mother or my father (is, are) coming to the meeting.
3. The dog or the cats (is, are) outside.
4. Either my shoes or your coat (is, are) always on the floor.
5. George and Tamara (doesn't, don't) want to see that movie.
6. Benito (doesn't, don't) know the answer.
7. One of my sisters (is, are) going on a trip to France.
8. The man with all the birds (live, lives) on my street.
9. The movie, including all the previews, (take, takes) about two hours to watch.
10. The players, as well as the captain, (want, wants) to win.
11. Either answer (is, are) acceptable.
12. Every one of those books (is, are) fiction.
13. Eight dollars (is, are) the price of a movie these days.
14. (Is, Are) the news on at five or six?
15. Mathematics (is, are) John's favorite subject, while Civics (is, are) Andrea's favorite subject.

Your **scary story** is due next week or **else...**

Title and first sentence are very important and worth 30%, because the protagonist and conflict should be introduced early. If you want to add a photo that will add more mood, like in the example above, then do so.

It's better to use a computer when writing and print the story out, but handwritten submissions will be accepted. Double space (so there is room for comments and corrections).

Don't put your name on it. Format according to: <http://www.shunn.net/format/story.html>

Have fun writing!