

OLYMPIADS SCHOOL/GRADE 9 AND 10 WRITING/HOMEWORK 2

NAME (FIRST AND LAST): _____ GRADE: _____

REVIEW: THE ESSENTIALS OF A PARAGRAPH

(Adapted from Teresa D. O'Donnell and Judith L. Paiva's *Independent Writing*)

Read the following paragraph that contains *illustration* (material that presents clarification or explanation to prove a point):

Not knowing a language well can sometimes cause a problem in communication. One word in a language can have different meanings, or two words can have the same pronunciation but have different meanings. About two years ago, one of my friends told me an embarrassing story. The first year she was in the United States, she had a job at a dry-cleaning establishment. One day a customer came in to pick up his clothes. After he had paid for the cleaning and was ready to leave, he suddenly turned back to my friend and asked, "Do you dye here?" Thinking that she had understood his question, my friend got upset and answered, "No, I won't die here. I don't want to die at my work place!"

What is the topic/main idea of the paragraph? _____

Does the topic sentence have a word or phrase that controls the idea of the paragraph?

What are the main supporting ideas?

1. _____

2. _____

Are there any logical connectors? _____

Is there a conclusion? _____

COORDINATION

Table 1

	1. Conjunctions	2. Logical connectors	3. Correlatives
<i>Addition</i>	and	also in addition besides moreover	not only... but also
<i>Contrast / concession</i>	but yet	however nevertheless on the other hand still	--
<i>Choice or alternative</i>	or nor	otherwise	either...or neither...nor
<i>Result</i>	so	therefore thus as a result accordingly for this reason consequently	--
<i>Restatement</i>	-- --	in short in other words in effect	--
<i>Restatement to intensify</i>	--	in fact as a matter of fact indeed	--
<i>Cause</i>	For*	--	--

Exercise 1. Selecting Conjunctions

Combine the following sentences, using appropriate conjunctions from Table 1. Be sure that your choice of conjunctions illustrates the relationship between the paired sentences and that you punctuate correctly.

1. The family next door had just moved in.
The neighbours had a welcoming party for them.
-

2. Butter is very expensive.
Most people buy margarine.
-

3. I bought a large car two years ago.
Now I wish I had bought a small one.
-

4. Would you like to go to a movie?
Would you rather go ice-skating?
-

Exercise 2. Selecting Logical Connectors

Use appropriate connectors to link the ideas in the following sentences. Try to put the sentence connectors in different positions, and be sure to punctuate correctly!

1. People should exercise regularly.
They will get out of shape.
-

2. Barbara is quite a bit taller than most women.
She is six inches taller than her husband.
-

3. I would like to take an English literature course.
I haven't had the prerequisites yet.
-

Exercise 3. Inserting Correlative Conjunctions

Combine the following sentences, using the given correlatives. Remember to combine sentences, not parts of sentences, and to reverse the subject-verb word order when necessary.

1. In planning for their careers, people must consider their own special interests.
They must take the job market into careful consideration. (not only..., but also)
-
-

2. She decided to change her major.
She decided to change universities. (not only...,but also)
-
-

3. The architect didn't design the building to be modern.
She didn't design it to be attractive. (neither..., nor)
-
-

4. John has read all of the books in the library on the world's great religions.
He has read as much as he can about religious cults. (not only..., but also)
-
-

5. The psychology department didn't offer any courses in abnormal behavior last semester.
It didn't offer any courses in human relations. (neither..., nor)
-
-

READING COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY

Teenage Animal: Why Martin Garrix Is The Fastest-Rising Star in EDM

Martin Garrix, now 18, performing at Ultra Music Festival in March. (Photo: Tim Mosenfelder/Getty Images)

Ryan Mac
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Most teenagers will celebrate their high school graduation at home, toasting their coming of age with apple cider and supermarket cupcakes with grandma, Aunt Jean and a few classmates. Martin Garrix celebrated finishing music academy classes in June by partying with hundreds of thousands, first in Warsaw, then Las Vegas (twice), then Dover (yes, Delaware) and then back in Vegas.

Such is life when you're the fastest-rising act in electronic dance music. In the span of 12 months, the 18-year-old Garrix not only completed school, but went from a being literal spectator at the world's largest music festivals to performing on their main stages, propelled by a Top 10 hit, savvy business partnerships and a certain self-awareness that's often lost on young stars.

"It's crazy to see how much has happened in such a small time period," says Garrix, sprawled out on a copper couch inside Las Vegas' Hakkasan nightclub. It's Saturday afternoon during Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC) weekend and he's shaking off the yawns after playing well past midnight the night before. Tonight, he's going even later, closing out the main stage with around 50,000 people at 4 a.m. before catching a flight to Dover for another festival and then returning to Hakkasan, where he'll play despite being three years short of legal drinking age. (On the three sold-out dates that he's played there, he had to be escorted in and out of a completely dry DJ booth.)

While dance music has seen its fair share of young talent, no one has hit the same heights at such a tender age as Garrix. Born Martijn Garritsen in a suburb just outside Amsterdam, he is the new face in rapidly evolving genre that has embraced his big room anthems, particularly "Animals," which catapulted him into the spotlight. That track, which is now more than a year old, peaked at No. 1 in a number of countries, including the United Kingdom, and went platinum in the U.S.

"I made ['Animals'] as a club record and to get it played at the clubs and festivals," Garrix says, still in astonishment of the song's popular reception. "One year ago, it was the most played track at EDC Vegas and then you're playing the main stage."

While he attended Miami's Ultra Music Festival (UMF) in March of 2013 as a fan, 2014 has seen him grace the stages of the world's largest music events, among them Coachella, EDC Las Vegas, Belgium's Tomorrowland and UMF. According to data from Songkick, Garrix played more than 40 shows in the 12 months after June 1, 2013, an impressive stint considering he had classes during the week.

Despite the private jets and Instagram photos of champagne showers, it doesn't seem like much has gone to Garrix's head. The smooth-faced, slender teenager lacks the inflated ego that could have come with the rise in fame, and speaks animatedly with a genuine disbelief of his current lifestyle.

"Paul McCartney was watching me during my set and I looked back and was like *Whaaaaa*," he says of his performance at Coachella. "I told my parents after my set because Coachella is two weekends and Paul McCartney was at the first weekend and my parents were coming the second weekend. So I texted them and they were like, 'Oh, we came the wrong weekend!'"

Garrix says he started producing seven years ago and played his first gigs at weddings and birthday parties. After winning several DJ competitions in Holland, he signed a record deal with dance label Spinnin' Records in 2012, giving him the platform to create and release "Animals." That song eventually found its way to Scooter Braun, Justin Bieber's manager, who heard an early demo from his staffer, Michael George. George met Garrix while on trips to UMF 2013 to scout for new electronic music talent.

"Michael went to every EDM festival to find something," remembers Braun, who also represents Ariana Grande and Carly Rae Jepsen. "Then he told me about Martin who had just turned 17. I told him, 'I'm the guy that signs a bunch of teenagers and you want to sign another one?'"

Braun says he was convinced of George's intuition upon hearing "Animals," telling his employee to continue pursuing Garrix. In July of 2013, Braun moved to close the deal, calling Garrix out of the blue while the young DJ was on vacation at Club Med Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic.

"I called the front desk and told them, 'I need to get to Martin Garrix—I'm from his school and this is an emergency,'" laughs Braun. "They connected me to his room. He had just tweeted something like 'the Internet sucks at this club' so I said, 'I'm Scooter Braun and I'm here to fix your internet.'"

While the paperwork was hammered out the next week for a co-management deal between Braun's SB Projects and an arm of Spinnin' Records, Braun and George kept the deal under wraps for six months, afraid that any early attention could hamper Garrix's status. They used that time to learn about the space and get Garrix connected to industry execs that accelerated his exposure in the U.S. Says Braun: "We didn't want to come in as big shots. The truth was, I was a rookie in EDM."

Garrix attributes the American success of his breakout track to Braun and George, and also commends them for making connections to the likes of singer Ed Sheeran, who will debut a track with the DJ later this year. Braun also says that a collaboration with Pharrell Williams may also happen in the near future.

"This kid can pick up a guitar and play classical guitar," says Braun, noting Garrix's skill as a musician. "I want to make it more than DJing and more about the music."

For now, Garrix says music, especially a full album, is his focus. While he is on a relentless summer festival schedule, he has about six tracks ready for his debut, which could come out next year. There's also an impending headline tour.

"There's so much more that I want to do," he says. "Of course it's great what has happened so far: Ultra, Coachella, EDC. But still production-wise and show-wise—I'd love to play a show at Madison Square Garden. Stuff like that is beyond my imagination."

The following sentences are from the article above about Martin Garrix. Guess the meaning of the underlined words based on the context of the sentence or of the article as a whole. Explain your inference. Then refer to a dictionary and copy down the word's definition.

1. Born Martijn Garritsen in a suburb just outside Amsterdam, he is the new face in rapidly evolving genre that has embraced his big room anthems, particularly "Animals," which **catapulted** him into the spotlight.

Your inference and explanation: _____

Dictionary's definition: _____

2. While he attended Miami's Ultra Music Festival (UMF) in March of 2013 as a fan, 2014 has seen him **grace** the stages of the world's largest music events, among them Coachella, EDC Las Vegas, Belgium's Tomorrowland and UMF.

Your inference and explanation: _____

Dictionary's definition: _____

3. The smooth-faced, slender teenager lacks the inflated **ego** that could have come with the rise in fame, and speaks animatedly with a genuine disbelief of his current lifestyle.

Your inference and explanation: _____

Dictionary's definition: _____

4. While he is on a **relentless** summer festival schedule, he has about six tracks ready for his debut, which could come out next year.

Your inference and explanation: _____

Dictionary's definition: _____

WRITING/RESEARCH

What is EDM? Do you or your friends listen to EDM? Describe EDM by sharing your prior knowledge about this music genre. If you don't know anything about EDM, ask a friend who knows or do some Google research.

THE END