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Foundations of English Composition

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**Informative Paragraph**

**Theme**: History of basketball

**Purpose**: Explain the history of basketball to those unfamiliar with the sport.

**Intended Audience**: Junior high school student

How did basketball, which now enjoys global popularity in events like the World Cup, reach this esteemed position? This sport was invented in 1891 in Massachusetts, USA, by Dr. James Naismith to keep young people active during the winter months. The very first game used peach baskets as goals and a soccer ball for play. Due to its simplicity and exciting gameplay, basketball quickly gained popularity and eventually spread throughout the United States and then to the rest of the world. The establishment of the NBA in 1946 marked a significant development in basketball as a professional sport. The emergence of star players such as Michael Jordan and LeBron James helped spread its charm worldwide. Moreover, basketball has also made a substantial impact on the fashion industry, most notably with the Air Jordan sneakers. This line of footwear, endorsed by Michael Jordan, has become a cultural icon, symbolizing the deep connection between basketball and fashion. These sneakers are not just for athletes but have been embraced by people from all walks of life, influencing trends and styles worldwide. Today, basketball is contested in international competitions like the Olympics and the World Cup and is loved by people all around the globe. This sport has transcended mere athletic activity, teaching young people about teamwork, leadership, and the importance of a healthy lifestyle, becoming a cultural symbol that influences even the fashion world. Through its rich history and continuous evolution, basketball offers an enduring spectacle of human achievement and creativity.

**Descriptive Paragraph**  
**Theme**: About my room

**Purpose**: To describe how great my room is to me

**Intended Audience**: People who are particular about their rooms and want to find out what they are particular about.

In the era of widespread remote work, my room has become an essential space for balancing work and private life. Sleeping hours, I spend a significant portion of my day here, so it's filled with personal touches that reflect my preferences. The walls are uniformly painted in a calming white, illuminated by sunlight streaming through the window. At the far end of the room, there's my beloved desk and desk rack, home to my PC, monitors, and other tools that support me. Having two monitors is crucial for work efficiency. The chair I chose for my desk was expensive, but it perfectly combines comfort with design, proving to be an immense help for work and study. The bed is equally important. Considering I spend about a third of my day there, I carefully selected a mattress suited to my physique. Its high resilience supports my body well, significantly aiding my recovery. Moreover, my room is constantly evolving. While large furniture pieces are difficult to change, I frequently update smaller items to boost my motivation. Recently, I added a faux green plant on my desk. Thus, my room, a supporter of both my work and private life, is the ultimate space for me.

**Reflection Questions**

1. What do you think your strengths and weaknesses are in terms of sentence construction and paragraph development? (1-2 sentences)

My strength in writing structure and development lies in my ability to create narratives that capture the chronological order well. As for weaknesses, I find it challenging to write passages that fully express my thoughts and feelings.

1. Explain how writing for a particular purpose and audience shaped each of your paragraphs. (3-5 sentences)

When writing the Informative Paragraph, I constantly considered how middle school students, my target audience, would read the text. Since the goal was to explain content that might be obvious to me but unknown to them, I aimed for simplicity in my writing. In the Descriptive Paragraph, I focused on how to depict facts throughout the entire passage.

1. Discuss your feelings about writing in different modes. Is there a particular mode you enjoy writing in more than another? (3-5 sentences)

I feel adept at describing facts, as in the Descriptive Paragraph or explaining events in chronological order. This is because it involves outlining facts and their developmental descriptions, aligning with my thought process of prioritizing precise wording. Conversely, I find it challenging to write persuasively using imaginative information.

1. Explain how different writing modes that you have learned about might be applied to scenarios in your real life. (3-5 sentences)

In my work, the target audience shifts among superiors, subordinates, and clients. Additionally, as the target audience changes, so does the purpose of the writing significantly. I believe that crafting documents with an awareness of these varying audiences and objectives helps facilitate my work smoothly.