

# Opinion Writing

## A Great Invention

### Objectives & Common Core Connections

- \* Introduce the topic for a selected audience.
- \* Focus on the purpose of opinion writing.
- \* State an opinion about the topic.
- \* Develop a list of reasons to support the opinion.
- \* Organize the information.
- \* Use linking words to connect the reasons and opinion.
- \* Write a concluding sentence.
- \* Write a paragraph that expresses an opinion.

**Introduction** Provide each student with a copy of the writing frame (page 24). Read the title and first line. Have students study the pictures. Explain that students will be writing a paragraph in which they express an opinion about why the safety pin or the paper clip is a great invention. Tell students that their audience or readers will be other members of the class.

**Model** Talk about how a writer might engage the class audience by using a friendly, conversational approach in introducing the topic with an opinion. For example:

- I think a paper clip is a clever invention with many uses.

Remind students that a writer must give reasons to support an opinion. For example:

- keeps pages together
- bookmark
- money clip
- key ring

Point out that a writer organizes information in a logical way to help the reader. Guide students in grouping these reasons together and then developing them into sentences. For instance, the first two sentences below are about using a paper clip at a desk, while the third and fourth sentences are about more personal uses. Model how ideas can be connected with linking words, such as *in addition* or *for instance*. For example:

- A paper clip holds pieces of paper together.
- You can use it as a bookmark.
- A paper clip makes a good money clip.
- In addition, you can use a paper clip as a key ring.

Explain that a good persuasive paragraph often has a concluding sentence that restates the writer's opinion. For example:

- A paper clip is a very handy item.

**Guided Practice** Have students complete the writing frame. Encourage them to use their own wording and sentence structure. If students wish to support the safety pin instead, help them develop reasons to back their opinion.

**Review** Invite volunteers to read their finished paragraphs to the class. Have listeners use items 1–9 on the assessment checklist (page 62) to evaluate the effectiveness of other students' work.

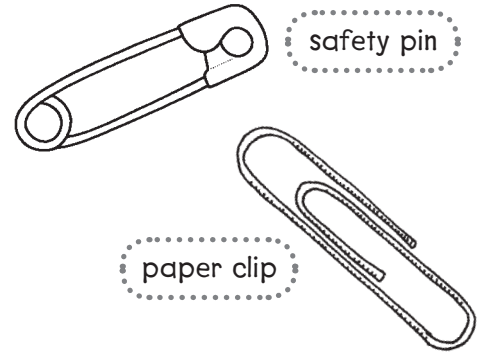
**Independent Practice** Use the On Your Own activity (page 25) as homework or review. Encourage students to use what they have learned in the lesson to complete the assignment. Explain that they can choose an invention from the Idea Box or think of their own idea.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# A Great Invention

Write about the invention you think is great:  
the safety pin or the paper clip.

- Introduce the topic with your audience in mind. Remember to focus on your writing purpose.
- State your opinion and give reasons to support it.
- Organize your reasons and use linking words to connect ideas.
- Write a concluding sentence.
- Write your paragraph on another sheet of paper.



Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Audience \_\_\_\_\_

Opinion \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Supporting Reasons \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Organizing Information

Group 1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Group 2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Possible Linking Words \_\_\_\_\_

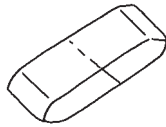
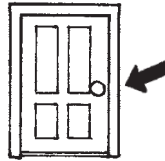
Concluding Sentence \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# On Your Own

Choose an invention from the Idea Box or think of one of your own. Complete this page. Then, write a paragraph on another sheet of paper to persuade your classmates that this is a great invention.


 Scissors

 Eraser

 Doorknob

 My Idea:

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Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Audience \_\_\_\_\_

Opinion \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting Reasons \_\_\_\_\_

Organizing Information

Group 1 \_\_\_\_\_

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Group 2 \_\_\_\_\_

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Possible Linking Words \_\_\_\_\_

Concluding Sentence \_\_\_\_\_

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# Student Assessment Checklist

## Opinion Writing

1. Introduced the topic. ....
2. Focused on the writing purpose. ....
3. Stated an opinion. ....
4. Developed and presented reasons, facts, and/or details to support an opinion. ....
5. Organized the reasons, facts, and/or details in a logical order. ....
6. Connected the reasons and opinion with linking words. ....
7. Addressed the audience appropriately. ....
8. Provided a concluding sentence. ....
9. Wrote a paragraph that offers an opinion. ....

**More Things  
to Check**

- Capitalized proper nouns.
- Capitalized the first word of sentences.
- Used correct punctuation.
- Spelled words correctly.
- Followed correct paragraph form.