

STUDENT BOOK F

FOCUS on

UNDERSTANDING
SEQUENCE



HAWKER BROWNLOW
EDUCATION

NAME _____

To the Student

In *FOCUS on Understanding Sequence, Book F*, you will read passages and answer questions. You will practise using the reading strategy called Understanding Sequence. You will learn about the strategy on the Learn About pages. You will see a sample passage, sample questions and sample answer choices on the Lesson Preview pages. Then you will practise using the strategy in twenty lessons.

Each lesson has a passage and five questions. After you finish reading the passage, answer the five questions. For the first four questions, fill in the correct answers on the Answer Form on page 53. Or, you may fill in the correct answers directly on the page. For the fifth question, write the answer on the lines provided on the page. Fill in the circle on the Answer Form to show that you have completed the fifth question.

Use the Tracking Chart on page 47 to show when you have finished each lesson and to show the number of questions that you answered correctly. After each group of five lessons, you will complete a self-assessment to see how you are doing.

So . . . FOCUS and enjoy!

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Learn About

Understanding Sequence

Sequence is the *order* in which *events happen* or the order in which *things are done*.

Often when you read, something happens *first*. Then something else happens *next*. Then another thing happens, and so on.

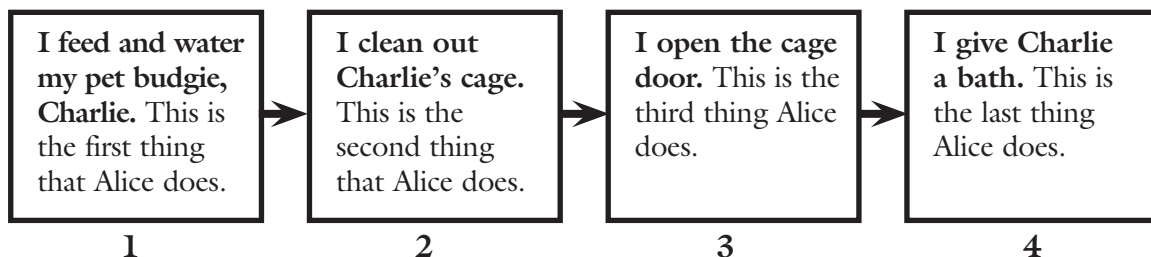
Read this passage to find out what a young woman named Alice does first, second, and so on.

The *first* thing I do when I get home from school every day is to feed and water my pet budgie, Charlie. Charlie always needs more birdseed and water. He also likes fresh grass and a little lettuce. Sometimes I give him a small apple or carrot, too.

Second, I clean out Charlie's cage. I've become pretty good at this task and can accomplish it quickly. I remove all the old newspaper from the bottom of his cage and replace it with fresh newspaper. I just have to be careful that I use newspapers that my parents have finished reading. Once I put the sports page in Charlie's cage before my father had finished reading about his favourite football team's last-quarter heroics. That definitely wasn't good.

Third, I open the cage door so that Charlie can climb out of his cage. He likes to fly around the room for a few minutes to stretch his wings and get some exercise.

Last, I give Charlie a bath. He has a tiny plastic bathtub that I fill with warm water and put in the bottom of his cage. Charlie loves to splash around in this water and I think bathing is his favourite activity of the day.



The boxes above are like a timeline that shows what Alice does each day when she gets home from school.

To understand the sequence in a passage, think about what happens or what is done first, second, third, fourth, and so on.

Clue words such as *first, next, then, last, finally, before* and *after* may tell you the order in which things happen.

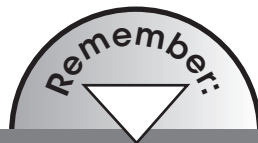
In the passage about Alice's budgie, the word *first* is used to tell you what Alice does first when she gets home from school. What other clue words tell about the sequence of events in the passage? The clue words *second, third* and *last* are used.

Words that indicate **time** may also signal sequence. Such words can tell the time of day, the day of the week, the month, the year, the season, and so on. Some **time words** are *yesterday, noon, at sunrise, Friday, December, 1997, last night, winter* and *morning*. For example:

My brother was born in 2004. In July 2005, he turned one year old. Since my cousins were on holiday at the time, we postponed a small family get-together (I'd hardly call it a birthday party) until the autumn. On 6 September at 1 p.m., the party promptly started. There was just one little problem: the birthday boy was taking a nap. That didn't stop us, however. We celebrated without him.

You will also find clue words in a set of directions, such as a recipe or the rules for playing a game. These words signal a sequence of steps, from the beginning to the end of the task. Numbers (1, 2, 3 and so on) are often used to show the sequence of steps to follow in a set of directions.

If you don't see clue words, you can still figure out the sequence in a passage. Just ask yourself what happens or is done first, next and, so on.



Sequence is the order in which events happen or the order in which things are done.

Lesson

Preview

Read this sample article about dragonflies. As you read, pay attention to the order in which things happen. Look for clue words.



The Life of a Dragonfly



In summer, a female dragonfly lays eggs on the stems of plants in ponds. A few weeks later, the babies – called nymphs – hatch. The nymphs look like adult dragonflies except they do not have wings. Since the newly-hatched nymphs cannot fly, they drop to the bottom of the pond and wait for a meal to pass by. Dragonfly nymphs will eat almost anything – spiders, worms, snails, slugs and even small fish. A dragonfly nymph may live for several years at the bottom of a pond before it turns into an adult dragonfly. During this time, it sheds its outer skin, called an exoskeleton,

ten to fifteen times. Each time a nymph sheds, its wing buds get larger until one day it is ready to become an adult dragonfly.

Then the nymph climbs up a stick or plant stem to get out of the water. Its outer covering splits open and a damp dragonfly emerges. For about thirty minutes, the new dragonfly lets its wings dry. Then the dragonfly flies off. During the next few days, the outer covering gets thicker and shiny green and blue colours develop. Soon the dragonfly zips around at speeds of up to 50 kilometres an hour!

1. The boxes list about some things that happen with dragonflies.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| In summer, a female dragonfly lays eggs. | | The nymphs drop to the bottom of the pond. |
|--|--|--|

1

2

3

Which of these belongs in box 2?

- Ⓐ Soon the dragonfly zips around at speeds of up to 50 kilometres an hour.
- Ⓑ A few weeks later, the babies – called nymphs – hatch.
- Ⓒ For about thirty minutes, the new dragonfly lets its wings dry.
- Ⓓ The nymphs climb up a stick or plant stem to get out of the water.

2. In the article, which of these happens last to an adult dragonfly?

- Ⓐ The dragonfly lets its wings dry.
- Ⓑ Its wing buds get larger and larger.
- Ⓒ Shiny green and blue colours develop.
- Ⓓ A damp dragonfly emerges.

Look at the answer choices for each question.
Read why each answer choice is correct or not correct.

1. The boxes list some things that happen with dragonflies.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| In summer, a female dragonfly lays eggs. | | The nymphs drop to the bottom of the pond. |
|--|--|--|

1

2

3

Which of these belongs in box 2?

- Ⓐ Soon the dragonfly zips around at speeds of up to 50 kilometres an hour.

This answer is not correct because the event in box 2 needs to have happened after a female has laid eggs and before the nymphs have dropped to the bottom of the pond. This event happens much later in the life of a dragonfly.

- A few weeks later, the babies – called nymphs – hatch.

This answer is correct because the article says that nymphs hatch after eggs are laid and before the nymphs drop to the bottom of the pond.

- Ⓒ For about thirty minutes, the new dragonfly lets its wings dry.

This answer is not correct because new dragonflies let their wings dry after the event in box 3, not before the event in box 3.

- Ⓓ The nymphs climb up a stick or plant stem to get out of the water.

This answer is not correct because it does not occur between the event in box 1 and the event in box 3.

2. In the article, which of these happens last to an adult dragonfly?

- Ⓐ The dragonfly lets its wings dry.

This answer is not correct because, although it does happen to an adult dragonfly, it is not the last thing to happen.

- Ⓑ Its wing buds get larger and larger.

This answer is not correct because this does not happen to an adult dragonfly; it happens to a dragonfly nymph.

- Shiny green and blue colours develop.

This answer is correct. Of the four things listed in the article, this one happens last in the life of an adult dragonfly.

- Ⓓ A damp dragonfly emerges.

This answer is not correct. Although this does happen to an adult dragonfly, it does not happen last.