

Including Relevant Details

When writing to explain, describe or inform, it is important that you include all relevant details, and omit anything that is not relevant. This will make your writing clearer, more concise, and easy to follow.

DIRECTIONS: Complete the exercise below to practice using only relevant details in your writing.

1. Think of something you would like to share with your classmates. It could be a recent news story that you have heard, or something that happened to you recently. What is it?

2. In the box below, brainstorm everything that comes to mind when you think about this thing. Take at least five minutes for this exercise



3. Think of a good topic sentence for a paragraph about your topic. Make a claim or take a position on the topic. Write your sentence below.

4. Now go back and take a second look at the ideas you wrote down in the box. Circle the ones that are relevant to, and which will provide solid supporting details for, your topic sentence. Use the relevant details to write a paragraph to go with your topic sentence. Use the back of this page.