

## Write in Paragraphs

Paragraphs should be

### TIP TOP

Start a new paragraph for a new

### Time Place Topic Person

We were in the deep, dark cave. It was very quiet except for the drip, drip, drip of water. We could not see anything at all.

Change in topic



*Brett shouted, "Quick, there is a light in that tunnel!"*

Change in person speaking



*"Let's go," cried Sophie and we all ran off with Doodles barking at our heels.*

Change in time.



*Five minutes later, we realised that we were completely lost. We had no idea where to go next. We all stopped and thought.*

Change in topic



*A strange bird flew into the tunnel and looked at us. It seemed to understand that we did not know where to go next. It flapped its wings and flew off.*

Change in person speaking



*"Shall we follow it?" I said. I started to walk towards it. It flew a bit further away.*

Change in time



*Later on, we saw a huge cavern up ahead. We ran into it and saw a purple gleam in the far corner.*



# Have a go...

Where would you start the paragraphs in this piece of writing?

When Mr. Bilbo Baggins of Bag End announced that he would shortly be celebrating his eleventy-first birthday with a party of special magnificence, there was much talk and excitement in Hobbiton. Bilbo was very rich and very peculiar, and had been the wonder of the Shire for sixty years, ever since his remarkable disappearance and unexpected return. The riches he had brought back from his travels had now become a local legend, and it was popularly believed, whatever the old folk might say, that the Hill at Bag End was full of tunnels stuffed with treasure. And if that was not enough for fame, there was also his prolonged vigour to marvel at. Time wore on, but it seemed to have little effect on Mr. Baggins. At ninety he was much the same as at fifty. At ninety-nine they began to call him *well-preserved*, but *unchanged* would have been nearer the mark. There were some that shook their heads and thought this was too much of a good thing; it seemed unfair that anyone should possess (apparently) perpetual youth as well as (reputedly) inexhaustible wealth. 'It will have to be paid for,' they said. 'It isn't natural, and trouble will come of it!' But so far trouble had not come; and as Mr. Baggins was generous with his money, most people were willing to forgive him his oddities and his good fortune. He remained on visiting terms with his relatives (except, of course, the Sackville-Bagginses), and he had many devoted admirers among the hobbits of poor and unimportant families. But he had no close friends, until some of his younger cousins began to grow up. The eldest of these, and Bilbo's favourite, was young Frodo Baggins. When Bilbo was ninety-nine, he adopted Frodo as his heir, and brought him to live at Bag End; and the hopes of the Sackville-Bagginses were finally dashed. Bilbo and Frodo happened to have the same birthday, September 22nd. 'You had better come and live here, Frodo my lad,' said Bilbo one day; 'and then we can celebrate our birthday-parties comfortably together.' At that time Frodo was still in his *tweens*, as the hobbits called the irresponsible twenties between childhood and coming of age at thirty-three. Twelve more years passed. Each year the Bagginses had given very lively combined birthday-parties at Bag End; but now it was understood that something quite exceptional was being planned for that autumn. Bilbo was going to be *eleventy-one*, 111, a rather curious number and a very respectable age for a hobbit (the Old Took himself had only reached 130); and Frodo was going to be *thirty-three*, 33) an important number: the date of his 'coming of age'.

*You can check your answers by reading Lord of the Rings. The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R. Tolkien Chapter 1.*

*For more on TipTop paragraphing go to:*

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/writing/structure\\_paragraphs/revision/3/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/writing/structure_paragraphs/revision/3/)