

C. Practice

1 Read each pair of sentences. Decide which sentence in the pair has more clarity and which sentence has less clarity. Write *MC* for More Clarity or *LC* for Less Clarity.

- 1 ___ a. Many people eat food on the weekends.
___ b. Many Americans eat brunch on the weekends.
- 2 ___ a. People eat brunch around 11:00, which is after a typical breakfast but before a typical lunch.
___ b. Brunch is a meal that people eat between two other mealtimes.
- 3 ___ a. Pancakes are a typical food for brunch, and people almost always have coffee or orange juice.
___ b. Pancakes are served at some meals, and people may have different kinds of drinks.
- 4 ___ a. Young people go out for meals together.
___ b. Young people often go to restaurant brunches in large groups.
- 5 ___ a. Some restaurants have weekend brunch specials with a main dish, smaller dishes, and coffee for approximately \$15.
___ b. Some restaurants have brunch specials where you get a lot of food for one price.

2 Number the sentences in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.

The USDA recommends a number of steps to ensure that chicken is handled safely.

- ___ Finally, use the chicken in one or two days.
- ___ Chicken can go bad after that, and it can be very dangerous for your health.
- ___ Second, put chicken in a plastic bag after you buy it.
- ___ First, make sure chicken is cold before you buy it.
- ___ As soon as you get home, put the chicken in the refrigerator right away.

Follow these tips to be sure you are handling chicken properly.



D. Skill Quiz

Check (✓) the correct answer for each item.

- 1 *To inform* and *to persuade* are
 - ☐ a. common purposes for writing.
 - ☐ b. typical transition phrases.
 - ☐ c. ideas to increase clarity.
- 2 To give a paragraph clarity
 - ☐ a. think about who will read it.
 - ☐ b. use words with detail to make ideas clearer.
 - ☐ c. add transition words throughout the paragraph.
- 3 A coherent paragraph has sentences in
 - ☐ a. an order that makes sense, such as time order.
 - ☐ b. the order of length, with shorter sentences first.
 - ☐ c. an order that challenges the audience.
- 4 An academic paragraph does not use
 - ☐ a. formal language.
 - ☐ b. informal language.
 - ☐ c. the third person (*they*).
- 5 Which sentence's purpose is to give information?
 - ☐ a. In my opinion, it is crucial for farmers to work with the FSA.
 - ☐ b. The FSA should increase their programs to help more farmers.
 - ☐ c. The FSA is a department in the USDA that assists farmers.
- 6 Which sentence's purpose is to persuade?
 - ☐ a. Some Americans eat three meals a day, but others eat five or six.
 - ☐ b. According to experts, there are many ways to improve your health.
 - ☐ c. It is important to eat five meals a day in order to lose weight.
- 7 Which sentence uses the most detail to give it clarity?
 - ☐ a. One government agency says people should eat five meals.
 - ☐ b. An agency thinks people should eat food at different times.
 - ☐ c. The FNS recommends eating five nutritious meals each day.
- 8 Which sentence uses the most detail to give it clarity?
 - ☐ a. The FNS provides healthy food to disadvantaged children.
 - ☐ b. There is a service in the United States that gives food to children.
 - ☐ c. The FNS provides food for people.
- 9 Which sentences use a transition word to help add coherence?
 - ☐ a. There are many things you can do to be healthy. Eat nutritional food and exercise regularly.
 - ☐ b. There are many things you can do to be healthy. First, eat food with high nutritional value.
 - ☐ c. You can be healthier by eating food with high nutritional value. You'll be happier, as well.
- 10 Which sentences are in an order that makes them coherent?
 - ☐ a. First, make sure the vegetables are fresh. Next, put them in a plastic bag before you buy them.
 - ☐ b. Next, wash the vegetables under cold running water. To start, make sure the vegetables are fresh.
 - ☐ c. Finally, steam the vegetables or cook them with olive oil. Then put them in a plastic bag before you buy them.