

Writing exercise

You and all humans belong to many kinds of groups. In some, membership is involuntary—that is, you were not part of the decision to belong. For example, if you were born in Peru, you are a member of the group Peruvians. Other examples of involuntary group membership include left-handed people or brown-eyed people.

Most of the time, though, you and the rest of us want to join, or become members of, certain groups. Why? Joining the technology club, the school chorus, or a volunteer group that visits people in the hospital reflects your interests and becomes part of your social identity. You become an accepted member of the chosen in-group. At the same time, you remain different from the out-group, those people who are not in the group. This reflects the human desire to belong, but also the desire to stand out, or be seen as different.

Most groups we join have the intention of lasting over time. They work to influence others in some way. But sometimes emergent groups form without goals or structure. The members of emergent groups don't know each other, but come together suddenly to respond to an event. For instance, a group of people might see a car accident and immediately come together to help the victims.

Not all short-lived groups deal with accidents or disasters. A flash mob, which is a group of people who suddenly assemble to perform in public, only comes together for a short time and then disappears. The goal of a flash mob is to do something surprising and entertaining in public, such as having a pillow fight or dancing in the street.

Whether we're fighting with pillows or helping people, humans are social beings who come together in groups.

Rewrite one of the paragraphs of the text into the following tenses

(simple past, simple future, present progressive)

