

Writing

- A** Read this descriptive paragraph about the balalaika.
Label the parts of the paragraph.

The Balalaika

I think the balalaika is an amazing instrument. The balalaika is a popular Russian folk instrument. It's in the string family. Its body is shaped like a triangle, and it has three strings. Balalaikas can be different sizes. The pitch of each balalaika depends on its size. The prima balalaika has a high pitch, and the contrabass balalaika has a low pitch. All balalaikas are made of wood, and they are all played with the fingers.

The balalaika is my favorite instrument!



- B** Prepare to write a paragraph about an instrument you like.

Brainstorm instruments you would like to write about. Choose one and write it here.

Write a topic sentence about your instrument.

Research your instrument on the Internet. Write a few facts about it.

1

2

3

- C** Now go to your notebook to write your own paragraph. Then read and revise it.

My writing checklist:

- ☐ I wrote a topic sentence.
- ☐ I included researched facts.
- ☐ I wrote a conclusion.
- ☐ I read and revised my paragraph.

A Look and write.

1



A police officer wears a(n) _____.

2



A(n) _____ looks like a large violin.

3



Do you know how to play the _____?

4



Go over the _____ and turn right.

5



Your music is _____.
I can't hear myself think!

6



My dad loves to watch TV after work.
He thinks it's very _____.

B Two of the three words or phrases are correct. Cross out (X) the wrong answer.

1 We usually see these in an orchestra.

a violins **b** erhus **c** trumpets

2 This makes a very low sound.

a tuba **b** didgeridoo **c** flute

3 Many people think this is not very challenging.

a playing the violin **b** playing the triangle **c** playing the tambourine

4 This is a kind of drum.

a djembe **b** snare **c** zummara



BIG QUESTION 6

How do people make music?

C Read the story. Complete the sentences with *its*, *it's*, or a possessive noun ending in 's or s'.

The balalaika is an amazing instrument. It's₁ (It) a traditional instrument from Russia. ₂ (It) in the string family. The ₃ (balalaika) body is shaped like a triangle. ₄ (It) body is made of wood. You play ₅ (it) strings with your fingers.

D Check (✓) the correct answer.

- 1 A violin is _____ traditional than an erhu.
☐ **a** more ☐ **b** the most
- 2 A tuba is _____ than a flute.
☐ **a** louder ☐ **b** loudest
- 3 Of all the woodwind instruments, the zummara is _____ amazing.
☐ **a** more ☐ **b** the most

E Make two sentences for each picture.

1



a (tuba / bigger than / trombone)

b (trombone / as big as / tuba)

2



a (bassoon / louder than / flute)

b (flute / as loud as / bassoon)

3



a (clarinet / shorter than / didgeridoo)

b (didgeridoo / as short as / clarinet)