

## NARRATION

“What did you do over the weekend?” When you answer that question, you are using narration. *Narration* tells about an event or action that happens over time. Narration often uses *chronological order*, or time order. You can use narration to tell a story or to explain a process.

### TELLING A STORY

Erik peered beneath the rock and saw a small stone. The stone had a metal ring attached to its center. Erik tugged at the ring and felt the stone move. He pulled harder. Suddenly, the rock lifted. Below it was a dark hole. Erik dropped a pebble down the hole and listened. He heard nothing.

### EXPLAINING A PROCESS

Lay the square egg-roll skin on a table with one corner pointing toward you. Put a few spoonfuls of filling in the center. Then, take the corner of the skin that is closest to you and fold it over the filling. Next, fold the two side corners inward, using both hands. Then, brush a little beaten egg onto the unfolded corner. Finally, roll the filled part up and over the last corner.

## EXERCISE 5 Arranging Details in Chronological Order

Choose two of the following topics—one story topic and one process topic. On your own paper, list at least four events for the story and at least four steps for the process. Then arrange each list in chronological order.

1. You fall asleep on a bus or a subway and miss your stop. Then what happens? (story)
2. You find a small dinosaur eating your trash. And that is only the beginning. (story)
3. A mysterious stranger arrives in your town. People find this stranger frightening. (story)
4. You tell your brother how to set a digital clock. (process)
5. Tell a friend how to disguise herself for a costume party. (process)
6. Explain how to pitch a softball. (process)

## EVALUATION

You are *evaluating* when you tell whether you think something is good or bad. For example, you are evaluating when you say that walking is the best form of exercise. To make your evaluation believable to your audience, you need to give reasons that support your thinking.

One way to organize your reasons is *order of importance*. For example, you might start with your most important reason. Then you would give the next most important reason, and so on. Or you might start with your least important reason and end with your most important. The following paragraph uses order of importance.

EVALUATION	There are several good reasons for building a new commuter railway in our city. First, such a railway
REASON	would reduce the air pollution and noise pollution, which have reached alarming and dangerous levels.
REASON	Second, the railway would decrease our parking problems and the traffic jams leading into the city.
REASON	Third, building and staffing the railway would create some new jobs for the city's workers.

### EXERCISE 7 Developing an Evaluation

Choose one of the following subjects to evaluate. On the lines below, write one sentence stating your evaluation of the subject. Then list two reasons to support your thinking.

EX. Evaluation: Jurassic Park is one of the best movies of the 1990s.

Reason 1: The dinosaurs look real.

Reason 2: This movie is full of fast-paced action.

1. rap music
2. school sports
3. video games

Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason 2: \_\_\_\_\_