



Paragraphs

You have 6 minutes to read these statements about Indian Elephants, and put them into 3 groups. The groups are up to you.

The Indian elephant is smaller than the African elephant.

A newborn elephant weighs about 110 kg.

An adult eats lots of leaves and grass.

Adults look hairless.

A baby elephant is called a calf.

It could live to be eighty.

Its trunk is really a nose.

Its trunk can break branches.

Its habitat is being destroyed.

It is the second largest land animal.

A newborn calf is covered in fuzzy hair.

It uses its trunk to drink.

It breathes through its trunk.

The baby stays in the group until it is about ten years old.

The tip of its trunk can pick up a single berry.

Adults feed in the morning and evening.

Its trunk sucks up water and squirts it into its mouth.

Paragraphs

You probably got these three groups...

1 Adult elephants

2 Baby elephants

3 The elephant's trunk

Notes:

Its trunk is really a nose.

Its trunk can break branches.

It breathes through its trunk.

It uses its trunk to drink.

The tip of its trunk can pick up a single berry.

Its trunk sucks up water and squirts it into its mouth.

An elephant can break branches with its trunk. It breathes through it. It also uses its trunk to drink. It sucks up water and squirts it into its mouth. Its trunk is really a nose with which it can pick up a single berry.

The elephant's trunk is really its nose. It breathes through it. It uses its trunk to drink, by sucking up water and then squirting it into its mouth. It can pick up a single berry with its trunk, and can also use it to break branches.

The elephant's trunk is a remarkable thing. Despite its great length, it is really a nose. The elephant breathes through it. It also uses its trunk to drink, sucking up water and squirting it into its mouth. Although its trunk is strong enough to break huge branches, it is also so sensitive that it can pick up a single berry. Can you do either of these things with your nose?

How has each author gone about writing these paragraphs? Which is more effective and why? What tips on writing paragraphs can you get from this?

Paragraph from notes

Thinking of the tips, write a good paragraph based on one of these headings:

Adult Elephants

An adult eats lots of leaves and grass.

Adults feed in the morning and evening.

It is the second largest land animal.

Its habitat is being destroyed.

It could live to be eighty.

Adults look hairless.

The Indian elephant is smaller than the African elephant.

Baby Elephants

The baby stays in the group until it is about ten years old.

A newborn elephant weighs about 110 kg.

A newborn calf is covered in fuzzy hair.

A baby elephant is called a calf.