

## Combining Notes into Sentences

By making notes, you can generate a lot of ideas very quickly without stopping to decide how, where, or even if you will eventually use them. Notes need not follow any specific logical order. In fact, they are usually composed of words, phrases, and clauses instead of complete sentences. Making notes is a great way to begin writing. However, when it comes time to begin the first draft, you must turn your notes into sentences.

Writer's Notes:	tenth-grade classes
	fixing up an old playground
	children who live in the neighborhood
	over the past year
Sentence:	Over the past year, the tenth-grade classes have been fixing up an old playground for the neighborhood children.

Remember that a **sentence** is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. Make sure that each of your sentences meets each of these qualifications.

**DIRECTIONS** Combine the following notes to form complete sentences. Insert punctuation and capitalization when necessary.

- the playground has been neglected

no children have used it

quiet, sleepy neighborhood

for several years

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- swing set is rusty

looks as though a truck ran into it

near the large oak

tilting at an impossible angle

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3. the baseball diamond  
used in decades

grown over with tall, prickly weeds not  
west side of park

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4. small birds  
have staked their claim building nests for young

behind home plate  
underneath the bleachers

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5. the sandbox  
a few wild flowers play with my trucks

used to be favorite place  
now filled with weeds

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6. at a town meeting  
get new playground equipment

suggested we clean up the park  
a group of high school students

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7. eager to help  
volunteered to work baseball diamond

ready to see a change  
my father and I

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8. interest in a new playground  
happy to encourage students

many enthusiastic people  
offered their time and skills

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9. using our free time

building up the pitcher's mound

mowing pulling weeds

worked whenever we could

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10 on a warm, balmy day

leveling the dirt

imagining the smack of a bat I worked quickly

for the new home plate

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## Combining Notes into Sentences

## Answer Key

### Answer Keys:

Answers will vary. These are sample answers.

1. The playground in our quiet, sleepy neighborhood has been neglected; no children have used it for several years.
2. Tilting at an impossible angle, the rusty swing set near the large oak looks as though a truck ran into it.
3. On the west side of the park, the baseball diamond, which has not been used in decades, is grown over with tall, prickly weeds.
4. Underneath the bleachers behind home plate, small birds have staked their claim, building nests for their young.
5. The sandbox, now filled with weeds and a few wild flowers, used to be my favorite place to play with my trucks.
6. At a town meeting, a group of high school students suggested that we clean up the park and get new playground equipment.
7. Eager to help and ready to see a change, my father and I volunteered to work on the baseball diamond.
8. Happy to encourage the students' interest in a new playground, many enthusiastic people offered their time and skills.
9. Using our free time, we worked whenever we could, mowing, pulling weeds, and building up the pitcher's mound.
10. Imagining the smack of a bat on a warm, balmy day, I worked quickly, leveling the dirt for the new home plate.