

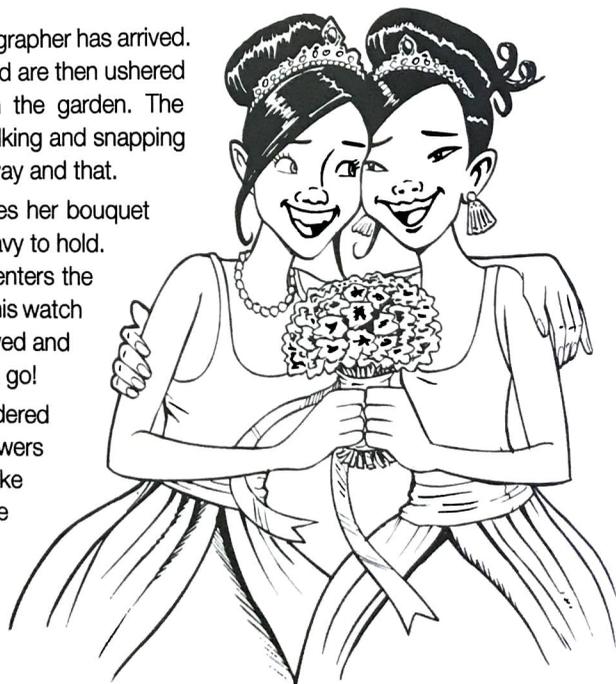
# Sequencing = 1

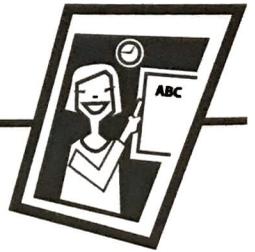
If you want to understand what you read you must be to be able to work out the order in which events happened. This is called sequencing.

Read the narrative.

## An exciting day

1. Dakota and Sophie are woken by their mother. Although it's early, the house is already full of noise. The girls jump out of bed, remembering that today is, finally, the big day!
2. After their showers, the sisters collect the cutlery and placemats from the kitchen and set the table for the special wedding breakfast their mother has organised.
3. The doorbell rings and Sally, their cousin and the bride, arrives with her wet hair in a messy bun and an exuberant grin. She hands the girls a small box each which they open quickly to discover a silver necklace with pink, glistening jewels along it.
4. Car doors slam and the other bridesmaids bustle in through the doorway, declaring how hungry they are. Moments later, Auntie Jean and Gran arrive carrying bags and boxes and hugging everybody they can reach.
5. Sophie and Dakota help their mother carry trays of colourful sliced fruit, baskets of warm, sweet muffins and pancakes with all the accompaniments to the table.
6. Just as the last mouthful is eaten, the doorbell rings and the hairdresser arrives, followed soon after by the make-up artist. The dining table is cleared and cases of make-up, brushes, hair straighteners, curlers and a large mirror are set up.
7. Sophie winces as her hair is pulled and pinned, while Dakota pouts her lips as pink gloss is applied. The girls' mother glides from room to room, filling glasses and chatting to all the women in her house.
8. As the hairdresser adds the final pin to Sally's hair, the doorbell rings and the house fills with pink and white flowers. Auntie Jean announces that it's time to get dressed and collects the dresses from the bedroom. She carefully removes each one from its plastic bag. Sophie's and Dakota's dresses are white with pink ribbons around the waist and pink tulle underneath. They dress quickly then help Sally into her magnificent white wedding gown.
9. The doorbell rings again and the photographer has arrived. The girls are handed their bouquets and are then ushered outside to join the wedding party in the garden. The photographer barely takes a breath, talking and snapping and persuading the girls to pose this way and that.
10. Half an hour passes and Dakota places her bouquet on the grass, declaring that it's too heavy to hold. Fortunately for her, the girls' grandpa enters the garden through the side gate. He taps his watch and announces that the cars have arrived and they are blocking the street. It's time to go!
11. The girls are bundled in the car and ordered not to fiddle with their hair, dresses or flowers on the way to the church. Feeling like princesses, Sophie and Dakota wave to the neighbours who are standing on their lawns watching the wedding parade go by.





Learn how you can work out the sequence of events.

Remember that the order in which things happen is very important.

- Make sure you understand which events you need to sequence.
- Look in the text to find the events listed as possible answers and underline them.
- You will need to work out how these events are related. There may be some time marker words such as *then*, *before* or *next* in the text to help you.
- Always check all possible answers before making a decision.

1. Which event happens after Sally, the bride, arrives at the house?

- (a) The girls shower.
- (b) The girls set the table.
- (c) Their mother wakes them up.
- (d) The girls open their presents.

*Choosing the best answer*

- (a) The girls have a shower before Sally arrives at the house, so this can't be the right answer.
- (b) The girls set the table before Sally arrives at the house, so this can't be the right answer.
- (c) Their mother wakes them up before they have a shower and before Sally arrives. This is not the right answer.
- (d) Sally gives the girls their presents after she arrives. So they open them after that. This must be the right answer.

2. What happens just before the girls are given their bouquets?

- (a) Sally is helped into her wedding dress.
- (b) Auntie Jean says it is time to get dressed.
- (c) The photographer arrives.
- (d) The girls go out into the garden.

*Choosing the best answer*

- (a) Sally is helped into her dress some time before the girls are handed their bouquets. Did it happen just before? Check all answers.
- (b) The girls get dressed before they are given their bouquets, but did it happen just before? Remember to check all answers.
- (c) The photographer arrives after the doorbell rings and just before the girls are handed their bouquets. This is probably the right answer.
- (d) The girls take their bouquets out into the garden with them, so this is not the right answer.



Use similar strategies to those on page 29 to practise sequencing.  
(Clues are given to help you.)

1. *What happens first?*

- (a) The house fills with flowers.
- (b) The photographer arrives.
- (c) Sally's hair is pinned.
- (d) The girls put their dresses on.

The best answer is .

2. *Which one of these events happens between Sophie wincing as her hair is pulled and pinned, and her mother filling glasses?*

- (a) Dakota pouting as her lip gloss is applied.
- (b) The house fills with flowers.
- (c) The hairdresser arrives.
- (d) The girls get dressed.

The best answer is .

3. *Which three events happen just before the make-up artist enters the house?*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

4. *Explain what happens after the girls are bundled into the car.*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. *What happens just after the other hungry bridesmaids arrive?*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Think!**  
Underline each event to work out which one happens first.

**Think!**  
Find the part of the text that describes Sophie wincing and her mother filling glasses and read what happens between the events.

**Think!**  
Find the event in the text and read the text immediately before it.

**Think!**  
You will need to read the last paragraph to answer this question.

**Think!**  
Find the event in the text and read the text immediately after it.



Think about the strategies you have been using and work out these answers.

1. Use the numbers 1 to 4 to show the order in which these events happen in the text.

The girls set the table.

The girls have showers.

The girls collect the cutlery and placemats from the kitchen.

The girls jump out of bed.

2. Which event takes place last?

- (a) Dining table is cleared.
- (b) Brushes and make-up are placed on the table.
- (c) Make-up artist arrives.
- (d) Hairdresser arrives.

The best answer is .

3. Which of these events should be listed as event number 2 below?

- (a) The girls are bundled in the car.
- (b) The photographer directs the girls to pose this way and that.
- (c) Grandpa enters the garden through the side gate.
- (d) Sally is helped into her magnificent white gown.

Event 1. Dakota places her bouquet on the grass.

Event 2.

Event 3. Grandpa taps his watch.

Event 4. Grandpa says that the cars are blocking the street.

Event number 2 is .

4. List the four things that happen after Auntie Jean announces it's time to get dressed.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_