

Exercise #2: Outlining a Paragraph

By Dr. Karen Petit

The following sentences need to be described and re-arranged into a logical paragraph order. For each sentence, on the line furthest to the left, write **TS** for the topic sentence, **SP** for a supporting point, **D** for details, and **C** for the concluding sentence. Then add numbers to show which sentence should be first, which sentence should be second, etc.

- _____ The second helpful person was walking past me as I tried to reach some soup on the top shelf.
- _____ The first helpful person was a lady who was right in front of me as I was walking up to the front door.
- _____ She smiled before saying, “You’re so welcome. I love making people happy by acting this way.”
- _____ Meeting these two helpful people made me so happy that I now want to help others in similar ways.
- _____ He stopped pushing his cart forward and asked, “Can I retrieve that soup for you?”
- _____ As I walked past her and entered the store, I said, “Thanks! You’re so wonderful!”
- _____ I shook my head affirmatively, smiled, and asked, “Would you be able to reach two of them?”
- _____ She opened the door, held it open, and waved for me to be the first one through the doorway.
- _____ At a grocery store, two people were so helpful that I had a very happy shopping experience.
- _____ With a smile on his face, he waved good-bye while I was saying, “Thank you so much.”
- _____ He took down two cans of soup and put them both into my cart; he then retrieved three more cans for himself.