



# **SMART** **JUNIORS** **3**

**Friends, Family, and Relationships**

**Lesson 20**

**Read for Main Idea**



## Academic Vocabulary

Read the sentences. Choose the correct definition of each highlighted word.

1. Jason's **flashy** shirt caught everyone's eye with its bright patterns.



*n.* someone who enjoys fixing and/or making things as a hobby

2. Jim, a natural **tinkerer**, built a small robot from recycled materials.



*adj.* brightly colored or showy in appearance

3. Emily proved to be an effective **problem-solver** during the team project.



*n.* someone who finds solutions to overcome difficulties

## Academic Vocabulary

Read the sentences. Choose the correct definition of each highlighted word.

4. The counselor offered **empathy** to help the student cope with stress.



*n.* a problem or obstacle that makes things more challenging

5. Learning from **setbacks** is crucial for personal development.



*v.* to give form or structure to something

6. We need to **shape** the dough into round balls before baking.



*n.* understanding and sharing the feelings of another person

# PREPARE TO READ

## Think Before Reading

Rank the people below in the order of whom you have learned the most from. **1** being the highest and **5** being the lowest.



self



family



friends



idol



teacher

- Listen and read the article. Think about what the main idea is.

## ▶ The Family Member Who Shaped Me

Forget about powerful superheroes in capes! My hero wore overalls and had an old toolbox. Even though he wasn't the loudest or most **flashy**, my Grandpa Joe taught me important values that are more meaningful than any trophy. His impact wasn't one big gesture but a steady, quiet flow of wisdom in our everyday lives.





- ▶ **From Tinkerer to Problem-Solver:** Grandpa Joe turned fixing things into adventures! In his dusty garage, he showed me how to solve problems, step by step with his kind old hands. "Think creatively. Anything can be fixed," he said with such gentleness and encouragement. He made me a problem-solver, unafraid of challenges, seeing the world as a puzzle box waiting to be unlocked.



- ▶ **The Power of Kindness:** Grandpa Joe, rough hands and all, had a heart of gold. He'd fix anyone's fence or help kids at the center. Even animals got his kindness – feeding cats and saving birds. "Everyone deserves help," he'd say. He taught me **empathy** and how small acts matter. These lessons stay with me, shaping how I treat the world even now.

▶ **Life's Not Always Perfect:** Life wasn't always easy for Grandpa Joe. He had **setbacks**, like a repair gone wrong, but he'd just dust himself off and say, "Plans change, but you learn and try again!" This made me tough, knowing you can't give up on your dreams just because things get hard.



▶ Grandpa Joe wasn't a superhero, but he **shaped** me more! Aside from teaching me to be a problem-solver, and showing kindness, he also taught me to bounce back even when things are tough. Do you know other modern-day heroes like Grandpa Joe, who tirelessly influences others with a positive attitude through ordinary actions?

## The Family Member Who Shaped Me

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**Life's Not Always Perfect:** Life wasn't always easy for Grandpa Joe. He had setbacks, like a repair gone wrong, but he'd just dust himself off and say, "Plans change, but you learn and try again!" This made me tough, knowing you can't give up on your dreams just because things get hard.

Grandpa Joe wasn't a superhero, but he shaped me more! Aside from teaching me to be a problem-solver, and showing kindness, he also taught me to bounce back even when things are tough. Which superhero can you compare to everyday heroes like Grandpa Joe, who tirelessly influences others with a positive attitude through ordinary actions?

## The Main Idea

**What do you think is the main idea of the article?**

- A** All wisdom comes from the older generation, which teaches the younger generation some valuable lessons.
- B** The most impactful heroes are often ordinary people who quietly teach valuable life lessons through their everyday actions.



# READ FOR MAIN IDEA

## Identify the Structure

Paragraph 1 contains two parts. Identify them in the text and complete the sentences below.

1 It contradicts the common image of \_\_\_\_\_.

2 It introduces the topic of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Paragraph 1

Forget about powerful superheroes in capes! My hero wore overalls and had an old toolbox. Even though he wasn't the loudest or most flashy, my Grandpa Joe taught me important values that are more meaningful than any trophy. His impact wasn't one big gesture but a steady, quiet flow of wisdom in our everyday lives.



# READ FOR MAIN IDEA

## Identify the Structure

Skim paragraph 2 and identify the two parts.  
It includes:

the 1<sup>st</sup> main idea

A

details about the 1<sup>st</sup> main idea

the 1<sup>st</sup> main idea

B

the 1<sup>st</sup> main idea's opposing views

## Paragraph 2

**From Tinkerer to Problem-Solver: Grandpa Joe turned fixing things into adventures!**  
In his dusty garage, he showed me how to solve problems, step by step with his kind old hands. "Think creatively. Anything can be fixed," he said with such gentleness and encouragement. He made me a problem-solver, unafraid of challenges, seeing the world as a puzzle box waiting to be unlocked.



## Identify the Structure

Skim paragraph 3 and identify the two parts.  
It includes:

the 2<sup>nd</sup> main idea

A

the 2<sup>nd</sup> main idea's topic sentence

the 2<sup>nd</sup> main idea

B

details about the 2<sup>nd</sup> main idea

## Paragraph 3

*The Power of Kindness: Grandpa Joe, rough hands and all, had a heart of gold.*

*He'd fix anyone's fence or help kids at the center. Even animals got his kindness – feeding cats and saving birds.*

*"Everyone deserves help," he'd say. He taught me empathy and how small acts matter. These lessons stay with me, shaping how I treat the world even now.*



## Identify the Structure

Skim paragraph 4 and identify the two parts.

1 The 1<sup>st</sup> part states the \_\_\_\_\_.

2 The 2<sup>nd</sup> part explains the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### Paragraph 4

**Life's Not Always Perfect:** Life wasn't always easy for Grandpa Joe. He had setbacks, like a repair gone wrong, but he'd just dust himself off and say, "Plans change, but you learn and try again!" This made me tough, knowing you can't give up on your dreams just because things get hard.



## Identify the Structure

Skim the three parts (in different colors) of the paragraph and match them to the following statements.

- A It summarizes the lifelong lessons.
- B It reintroduces the main topic.
- C It asks an open-ended comparison.

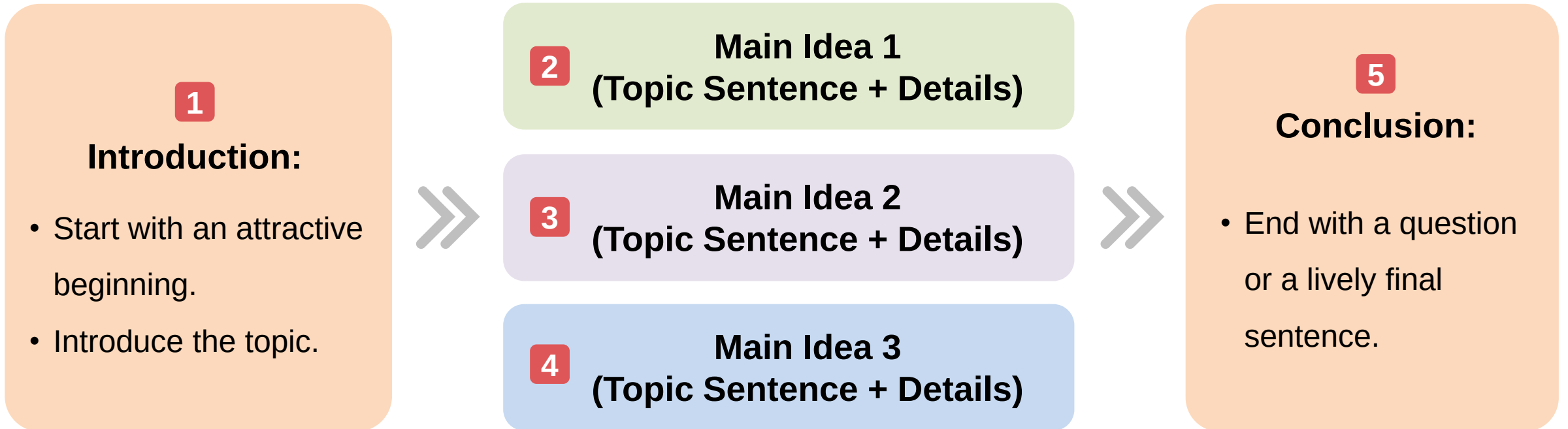
## Paragraph 5

Grandpa Joe wasn't a superhero, but he shaped me more! Aside from teaching me to be a problem-solver and showing kindness, he also taught me to bounce back even when things are tough. Do you know other modern-day heroes like Grandpa Joe, who tirelessly influences others with a positive attitude through ordinary actions?



# THE WRITING STRUCTURE

- Now let's put the five parts together to reveal the article's structure.





## Academic Vocabulary

flashy

tinkerer

problem-solver

empathy

setback

shape

## Article Structure

1

### Introduction:

- Start with an attractive beginning.
- Introduce the topic.

2

Main Idea 1  
(Topic Sentence + Details)

3

Main Idea 2  
(Topic Sentence + Details)

4

Main Idea 3  
(Topic Sentence + Details)

5

### Conclusion:

- End with a question or a lively final sentence.





# WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to understand the article in detail. See you next time!