First Nations Unit- Written paragraph fill in the blank examples

# **INTRODUCTION**

**Topic**: First Nations Peoples- Language

**Opening statement**: The First Nations Peoples of the Northwest coast had a very rich and diverse culture,

and included many sophisticated aspects.

**Headings** (categories/sections): (What are the key elements you will be covering in your written paragraphs)

1. Sounds

2. Special letters/symbols

3. language groups

4 alphabet

5 oral and written language

6 sign language

7 oral tradition

8 importance

**Background information/information why your topic was important**:

(Survival, cultural, social, political, economical, other):

General information 1: Many different languages on Northwest coast

General information 2: Many similarities between languages

General information 3: Had to communicate between different tribes-often difficult

Importance for Survival-allowed history/traditions to be passed on

Importance for Culture-backbone of oral tradition/ life lessons/ceremonies

Importance for Society/Politics- established how rights/privileges/stewardship passed on

Importance for Economy-allowed communication between nations for trading

**SAMPLE SKELETON INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH**

(Opening statement) The First nations peoples of the Northwest Coast had a very rich and diverse culture, and included many sophisticated aspects. One of the most interesting topics to learn about with regards to First Nations peoples on the Northwest Coast is that of (Name of your Topic.) (Name of your Topic.) was important to the peoples of the Northwest Coast because ***(background information/importance of topic).*** In order to truly understand this element of First Nations history one must take a look at **(headings/categories/sections**). As you will soon see, (Topic) was an essential element of First Nations peoples lives.

**SAMPLE INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH**

Guide to sample introduction paragraph.: Opening statement. Lead in sentence (including topic).

***Background Information***. **Headings list.**  Conclusion sentence.

The First Nations Peoples of the Northwest coast had a very rich and diverse culture, which included many sophisticated aspects. One of the most interesting topics to learn about with regards to the First Nations peoples of the Northwest Coast is that of their Language. Language was very important to the peoples of the Northwest Coast **because *there were many different languages spoken. As well, despite the similarities between the languages, communication was often difficult between the different nations*. *Language was important to the survival of first nations peoples because it allowed them to pass down their history and traditions from generation to generation. It also formed the backbone of the oral tradition which allowed cultural history and traditions to be passed on. In society and politics language was important because it* *established how rights, privileges, and stewardship were managed by the people of the nation. Lastly, language was extremely important to the economy as it allowed trade with other nations to obtain goods not readily available in their own territory.*  In order to understand this element of First Nations Peoples History one must take a look at both their** **oral and written languages, the sounds, the alphabet (including special symbols and letters), sign language used, and the different languages that were spoken. As well, the importance of the oral tradition to first nations peoples must be explored.** As you will soon see, Language was an essential element of First Nations peoples lives on the Northwest coast.

Writing section paragraphs example

Outline

Topic: Types of Plants

Heading: Devil’s club

Fact #1: -only harvested during specific times of the year

Details: -happened between April and May

-only harvested certain parts (prickly woody stems)

-very powerful- needs to be treated with great respect- should only be used by people with complete knowledge and experience

Fact#2 -Had many uses

Details: - used as an air freshener-this was done by boiling it in water

-used for hair shampoo for lice/dandruff

-used for purification before hunting- camouflaged hunter’s scent and was good luck

-also used as medicine

Fact#3-Preparation for making medicine took several steps

Details- first shaved off prickly outer bark

-then thin shavings of green inner bark are cut and soaked for 6-8 hours

-bark is removed and water is strained to make tea

Fill in the blanks paragraph (you can increase the number of facts and details as needed)

(keep in mind you may need to change this for grammar and to have your paragraph make sense)

One of the most important things about **(topic)** is ***(heading).*** One of the facts a person should know about ***(heading/pronoun)*** is (fact #1). *(extra details about fact #1 put into sentences)*. Secondly, an interesting point about ***(heading/pronoun)*** is (fact #2). *(extra details about fact #2 put into sentences).* Finally, an essential piece of information about ***(heading/pronoun)*** is that (fact #3). *(extra details about fact #3 put into sentences).* As one can see ***(heading/pronoun)*** was a significant element regarding **(topic).**

Paragraph with blanks filled in based on sample outline

One of the most important **types of plants** was ***Devils club*** One of the facts a person should know about ***Devil’s club*** is that it was only harvested during specific times of the year*, usually between April and May. When harvesting they only harvested the prickly wooden stems. It also needed to be treated with great respect. Medicine from Devil’s club was only made by people who had complete knowledge and experience, because it was very powerful.* Secondly, an interesting point about ***this plant*** is that it had many different uses. *For example if was used as an air freshener by boiling it in water. It was also used as hair shampoo to deal with lice or dandruff. Additionally it was used in purification rituals before hunting, because it camouflaged the hunter’s scent and was considered good luck. It was also an important medicine.* Finally, an essential piece of information about ***Devils club*** is that preparation for turning it into medicine took several steps. *Firstly, they would shave off the prickly outer bark. Next they would cut thin shavings of the green inner bark, and soak it for 6-8 hours. Then they would remove the bark and strain the water, which resulted in a tea used for medicinal purposes*. As one can see ***Devils club*** was a significant **type of plant** used by first nations peoples.