Secret Agents of Compassion

Imagine you are a Secret Agent who practices secret acts of **compassion** for your classmates. This means many times each day at school you understand how a classmate feels and **do** something about it.

Write a story about one of the secret acts of compassion you showed a classmate (it could even be an example from your real life).

Your story must include:

- 1. A beginning that introduces the setting, plus a narrator and/or several characters.
- 2. A clear sequence of events. (Written in the order they occur.)
- 3. At least three sentences of dialogue. (They must include quotation marks, proper punctuation and give voice to the character.)
- 4. Deep connection between the characters. (Instead of writing, "she was happy" you may write, "when she looked back at me I could tell her heart was happy.")
- 5. A variety of transitional words. (Also, another, because, etc.)
- 6. At least two paragraphs.
- 7. A conclusion (tying the story together.)

Important! Remember, so you can remain a Secret Agent, do not use your classmates' names or nicknames in your story.

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The first step in any writing assignment is to have a brainstorming session. During a brainstorming session the author concentrates on the writing topic and gathers ideas they might want to include in their writing.

A graphic organizer is a helpful tool the author can use to arrange their thoughts during the brainstorming session. In order to write your ideas as quickly as they come to you, do not worry about writing in complete sentences, using proper grammar or correct spelling when completing the graphic organizer.

Listening Activity:

Would you like to hear how your classmates were Secret Agents of Compassion? After everyone has completed writing their rough draft, you will be divided into small groups. After each student in the group reads their story, complete the chart on Page 32.

Graphic Organizer

Complete the graphic organizer while brainstorming the events of your story. In the column titled, "First," write the first event that takes place in your story. This column might include an event that caused the Secret Agent of Compassion to come the rescue!

In the "Next" column write your ideas of what happens second in your story. Write the third event that occurs in the column titled "Then." Create the ideas for the ending of your story and write them in the column titled, "Final."

First	Next	Then	Final

Rough Draft

Use the information from the graphic organizer to form the sentences of your story. If you run out of room on this paper, use a piece of notebook paper to complete the sentences in your two-paragraph story.			

Review your rough draft. Correct misspelled words and check for proper grammar. Gather feedback from the listening activity.

Make corrections on this page.

Final Draft

Copy your rough draft to this page. Take your time and write carefully. Check the spelling of each word and the sentence structure as you write This is the paragraph that really counts.		