

## BUILDING PARAGRAPHS

The writer of the paragraph below learned how to use the identifier tool by doing appositive activities like the ones in this section. His class was then given an assignment to write a paragraph to review an event in entertainment or sports. (Appositives are italicized.)

### Radiohead Live: A Sonic, Techno Dazzler

by **Tim Morzek**  
(*a student paper*)

(1) Radiohead is no stranger to breaking new ground, but with the release of their two new albums, two *highly experimental and electronic records*, many questions arose as to how they might perform the music live—*concerns that were quickly resolved at last night's concert*. (2) The venue was packed at the Gorge Amphitheatre, a *natural, outdoor music arena*, as many fans of Radiohead eagerly but restlessly awaited the appearance of the band. (3) Nearing dusk, Thom Yorke and the rest of his band took the stage amidst gales of applause and cheers. (4) The crowd's concern over whether or not these guys could pull off such strange and atmospheric music was quickly laid to rest as the band began with "Packed Like Sardines in a Crushed Box," *the first track off their newest album Amnesiac, a great kick-off for the album*. (5) At this point everyone realized that not only did Radiohead have the ability to perform these very experimental songs, *dazzlers that most bands couldn't even dream of attempting live because of the techno challenges*, but they were able to play them even better live than in a techno-rich recording studio. (6) As the sun began to set over the mountains in the distance, creating a very interesting mood, intensified by the very emotional moods of Radiohead's music, Thom began to play one of the band's most recognized and adored songs, "Paranoid Android," a "*Bohemian Rhapsody*"-like epic song consisting of three original songs put together to form what is considered by some the quintessence of Radiohead's genius. (7) Thom, pumping his fist during one of the more intense parts, his voice echoing off of the mountains and into the concertgoers' hearts, brought

the song together with his hauntingly beautiful vocals. (8) *The band's most creative and versatile member with a new show-stopper at every live concert*, Johnny Greenwood played one of his custom-wired guitars, giving the live version of the song the original sound for which that guitar has become known. (9) At the same time, Colin Greenwood, *Johnny's older brother*, stood between Thom and Johnny, playing the smooth yet odd bass line that really holds the song together. (10) Ed O'Brien, *the most "normal" of the band members*, was on the far left playing with his many pedals that give his guitar its unique sound. (11) All the while, Phil Selway, *the band's percussionist*, sat, sadly obscured by the others, yet heard clearly, holding the song to the proper pace and rhythm. (12) The entire concert was memorable, a *sonic, techno dazzler*.

## USING APPOSITIVES TO BUILD A PARAGRAPH

For an article in your school's newspaper, write a one-paragraph review of an event in sports or entertainment.

### WRITING PROCESS

**Researching:** Attend or recall the event.

**Prewriting:** List important terms associated with that event. Choose terms probably unfamiliar to your readers. For example, for the sport lacrosse, key terms are *attacker* and *midfielder*; for a movie, terms could include *computer generated images (CGI)* and *docudrama*.

**Drafting:** Draft a paragraph informing your readers about the event, using appositives to identify important terms. Use appositives in different places and lengths, and sometimes use more than one appositive within the same sentence.

**Peer responding and revising:** Exchange your draft with other students in your class for suggestions to improve your paragraph, and give them suggestions, too. Then revise several times until your paragraph is finished.

**Creating a title:** Create a memorable title and subtitle, with a colon between them. *Examples:* "CGI: Making Fake Real" or "Football: The Torture Sport."