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Written Expression
(Group 3)
WS 2024/2025 Task 1
A brief description of Konken

Konken is a small village that covers an area of seven square kilometres and has a population of 769 inhabitants. (END OF "INDENTIFICATION" STAGE?)

Konken is located in the west of Rhineland-Palatinate near Kusel. (MAYBE THAT INFORMATION COULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE "IDENTIFICATION" STAGE, MAYBE EVEN AS: "Konken is a small village in the west of ...; it covers an area ..."

In this region, all the villages are surrounded by hills covered with deciduous forest, farmland (mostly used to grow rapeseed) or pastures for grazing sheep and cows. (IN THAT LAST SENTENCE THE VOCABULARY SWITCHED TO BEING FROM THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE, AS PART OF DESCRIBING THE SURROUNDINGS).

The nearest city is Kaiserslautern. Konken lies between Kusel and Homburg and therefore has the relative comfort of being served by a bus once an hour. As there is a motorway not far away, one can find a huge building site where a motorway service area is under construction 500 metres away from the village.

(IN THIS PARAGRAPH – IF THAT'S WHAT IT IS – WE'VE SHIFTED FROM "THE SURROUNDINGS" TO "TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS" (SEE THE LEXICAL ITEMS!)

(LUCA SUGGESTED THAT THE NEXT BIT SHOULD PROBABLY BE ONE SOMEWHAT LARGER PARAGRAPH, BECAUSE IT SHIFTS TO DESCRIBING THE SHOPS IN THE VILLAGE. NOTE ALSO THE GRAMMATICALLY MARKED THEME "In relation to its size," WHICH WOULD BE A TYPICAL WAY OF SIGNALLING A SHIFT TO A NEW TOPIC. NOTE THIS NEW TOPIC, "shops", IS INTRODUCED IN THE RHEME OF A SENTENCE:)

In relation to its size, Konken has a lot of different shops. Like almost every village it has a bakery which sells not only pastries, but also hot drinks and which serves as a place to exchange the latest local news and gossip. Secondly, (THAT LAST WORD COULD HAVE BEEN A SIGNAL OF A NEW TOPIC; BUT ON THE OTHER HAND WE'RE STILL ON THE TOPIC OF "LISTING THE SHOPS", SO WE WON'T START A NEW PARAGRAPH.) there is a shop called "Kulinarische Landstraße". It sells regional products and food specialties and gives information about hiking trails and other tourist attractions. Furthermore, (NOTE THE LOGICAL RELATION OF "ADDITION":

"secondly" ... "furthermore" - THIS IS THE TYPICAL KIND OF LOGICAL

(This actually is the work of a student from a previous semester, slightly corrected.)

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CLAUSES IN A SENTENCE AND BETWEEN ONE SENTENCE AND ANOTHER IN A "FACTUAL DESCRIPTION") there is a household supply store, a market garden and a gas station. Next to the gas station is a repair shop for bicycles.

(EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THIS SENTENCE – BUT PROBABLY NOT BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER IT – YOU COULD START A NEW PARAGRAPH, BECAUSE THE TOPIC IS NOW OTHER AMENITIES THAN JUST SHOPS.)

Konken of course has also some more places where social and cultural life takes

place.

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There are the "basics" of a village of this size, that is to say a church and a cemetery, a kindergarten and an elementary school. On the outskirts, there is a playing field, mainly used for soccer.

BACK TO PLACES WHERE YOU CAN GET FOOD:

Furthermore, Konken has three restaurants. Two of them serve rather country-style dishes and people are also welcome to stay just to drink. One of them is a hotel, too, where the guests can sleep in hay. The third restaurant is more up-market (WAS THAT AN EVALUATIVE WORD?) and differentiates strictly between the restaurant and the pub, which are both together in the same building.

(NOTE THAT IN SWITCHING FROM ONE TOPIC TO ANOTHER WHEN DESCRIBING THE PARTS OF A PLACE, YOU CAN USE SPATIAL RELATIONS LIKE "next to":)

Next to one of the restaurants one can find – rather surprisingly – (GETTING PERSONAL AND SUBJECTIVE HERE ...) a little art gallery. From the outside one can only see a stone garden and a front decorated with shells. What it looks like from the inside \rightarrow I \leftarrow cannot tell, because \rightarrow I've \leftarrow never been there. Finally, there is a youth centre in the centre of the village, but it is not much frequented.

YOUR TASK: INSERT PARAGRAPH BREAKS WHEREVER YOU THINK THEY ARE APPROPRIATE. BE PREPARED TO JUSTIFY YOUR DECISIONS.