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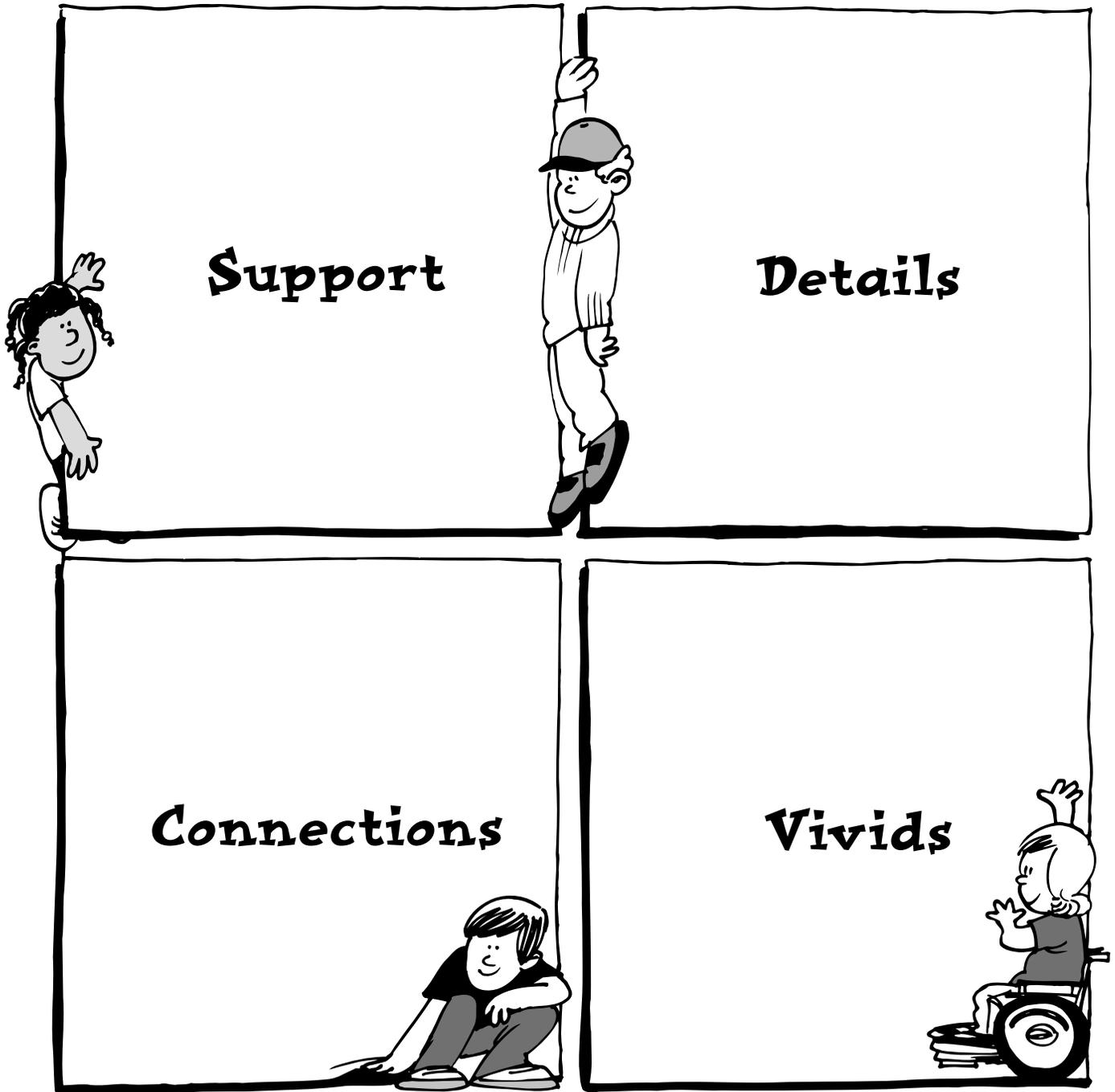
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Section 1

Getting Organized

Learning the Four Square



Pre 4□ Activities

Understanding Relationships

In order to organize writing into topics and sub-topics, we first need to explore the ways things are related. Some words, objects or ideas are broad and can encompass other ideas. Beneath these broad words, objects or ideas we can give examples, definitions or sub-categories. Before students can develop the main idea and supporting detail, they must understand that the subordination of one idea to another is natural and something they have observed in their world.

Provide multiple examples of this relationship's practice. Students can be challenged to think of as many subtopics to an idea as possible, using cereal brands, rock bands, football, baseball, soccer or hockey teams, television programs or any other familiar and comfortable topic. We want students to feel like this is a "game" and to achieve immediate success in writing instruction.

Reproducible worksheets are provided on pages 8 and 9 for practicing this important concept.



Understanding Relationships

Directions: Fill in the lines beneath the topic with three items that belong as subtopics.

