

# KICKING ACES UP A NOTCH!

**Writing Prompt:** What sport, hobby or activity could you teach to someone else?



## Paragraph 1: (Introduction)

**Attention Getter:** Did you know that at any given moment there are more than a dozen satellites orbiting the earth, just above your current location? Each satellite has a specific position in space and is controlled by the United States government. Prior to May 1, 2000 transmissions from satellites were masked and only the military could determine accurate locations with use of a Global Positioning System (GPS). However, when President Clinton removed Selective Availability he made it possible for civilians to find any location on earth.

**Bridge:** That means that now, people all across the world can join with other hunters in the high-tech scavenger hunt of geocaching.



**Answer:** I could teach someone else how to find hidden “treasures” known as geocaches.

## Paragraph 2: (Body)

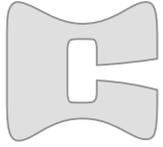


**Cite:** To begin, I could teach others how to find hidden items by using a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) unit.



**Explain:** These items (caches) are tucked away in a variety of places, just waiting to be discovered. The GPS unit connects to navigation satellites and uses directional coordinates to pinpoint locations.

### Paragraph 3: (Body)



**Cite:** In addition to using a GPS unit, I could also teach searchers how to employ the skills of observation to locate caches.



**Explain:** Once the hunter has arrived at the location disclosed on the GPS unit, the next step is to use observation techniques. I could teach others how to notice items that seem out of place or would indicate a possible cache that may be hidden nearby.

### Paragraph 4: (Conclusion)



**Summarizer:** By using a GPS unit, to find specific locations, and demonstrating how to employ observation techniques, I could teach someone how to find hidden “treasures.”

What a great opportunity to embark on a challenge and enjoy the benefits of our tax-funded, government-created satellites.



## High-Tech Scavenger Hunt of Geocaching

Did you know that at any given moment there are more than a dozen satellites orbiting the earth, just above your current location? Each satellite has a specific position in space, and is controlled by the United States government. Prior to 1 May 2000 transmissions from satellites were masked and only the military could determine accurate locations with use of a Global Positioning System (GPS). **However**, when President Clinton removed Selective Availability he made it possible for civilians to find any location on earth. That means that now, people all across the world can join with other hunters in the high-tech scavenger hunt of geocaching. I could teach someone how to find hidden “treasures” known as geocaches by using a GPS unit and applying basic observation strategies.

**To begin**, I could teach others how to read a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) unit which connects to navigation satellites and uses directional coordinates. These coordinates are created by using a cross-section of imaginary latitude and longitudinal lines which pinpoint any location on the earth’s surface. Other geocachers post specific coordinates on a shared website to identify where they have hidden various sized items (caches), some even containing prizes. The caches are tucked away in a variety of places, just waiting to be discovered.

**In addition to using a GPS unit**, I could also teach searchers how to employ the skills of observation to locate caches. Once the hunter has arrived at the location disclosed on the GPS unit, the next step is to use observation techniques. A searcher needs look at the area from a variety of perspectives. It is very important for the searcher to take their time and really scan the environment. I could teach others how to notice items that seem out of place or would indicate a possible cache may be hidden nearby.

By using a GPS unit, to find specific locations, and demonstrating how to employ observation techniques, I could teach someone how to find hidden “treasures”. What a great opportunity to embark on a challenge and enjoy the benefits of our tax-funded, government-created satellites.

Name: Kathy Hontz

## ACES 4-paragraph Scoring Tool

### Introduction:

**Attention Getter**—Uses at least one of the types of attention getters (i.e. anecdote, rhetorical question(s), definition, quotation, **startling facts**, background knowledge) **5**

**Focus**—Answers the teacher's question in the form of a sentence **5**  
Teacher's prompt was responded to in the form of a complete sentence as a conclusion of the first paragraph.

### Body:

#### **Body Paragraph #1**

**Content**—Cites an example that supports the Answer(A) **5**  
Thoroughly Explains example **5**  
Can teach others how to use a handheld GPS unit which uses coordinates to find a specific location

#### **Body Paragraph #2**

**Content**—Cites an example that supports the Answer(A) **5**  
Thoroughly Explains example **5**  
Can teach others how to use basic observation strategies to find a hidden cache after arrival at location.

### Conclusion:

**Focus**—Restates the teacher's question in the form of a sentence (A) **5**  
Can teach others how to find hidden treasures.

**Content**—Refers back to attention getter **5**  
Referred back to use of satellites for this activity of geocaching.  
Highlights body paragraphs **5**

Yellow = transitions; green = answer/summarizer; and underlined what was present in standard paragraph

**Organization**—Includes introduction(A), 2 body paragraphs(C, E), and conclusion(S) **5**

**Transitions**—Uses transitional words between paragraphs and between C and E **5**  
"In addition to ..."

**CUPS**—Correct Capitalization, Usage, Punctuation, Spelling **10**

**Presentation**—Paper is properly formatted, legible, and aesthetically pleasing **5**

**80/80**