

Expository Writing Frame

(Title) Why Pecos Bill is a Tall Tale
by

(Name) Dr. Evelyn Nelson-Weaver

(Topic Sentence) Pecos Bill is a tall tale because the story of his life is

(Introduce Subject) greatly exaggerated. In fact, the description of his childhood
and teenage years cannot possibly be true.

(1st Step) First, Pecos Bill would not have been left on the prairie by

(Show It) his parents. His frantic family would have noticed that he

(Prove It) was missing almost immediately. Everyone on the wagon

train would have searched until they found Bill. If they did not

find him it is doubtful that coyotes would have adopted the

baby. More than likely the coyotes would have eaten Bill.

(2nd Step) Next, there is no way Pecos Bill could rope a herd of cattle

(Show It) with a rattlesnake. It could be very dangerous to pick up a

(Prove It) rattlesnake, even deadly. These snakes are poisonous. If Bill

did manage to pick up a rattlesnake he would not be able to

turn it into a lasso. There is not a rattlesnake alive that would

be long enough to be used as a rope. More importantly, the

rattlesnake just wouldn't like it.

(3rd Step)

Last, Pecos Bill did not dig the Rio Grande. This river winds through a deep canyon that took thousands of years to create. No single man could finish such a large project. The Rio Grande stretches 1500 miles from Colorado all the way down to the Gulf of Mexico. It would take months just to walk through the length of the river.

(Show It)

(Prove It)

(Sum It Up)

In conclusion, Pecos Bill is a mighty tall tale full of wild ideas that could not possibly be true. However, the exciting stories about Bill's childhood are very entertaining.

(Closing Idea)