

TOPIC SENTENCES Worksheet 1: What is a topic sentence?**Exercise 1:** What is a topic sentence?

Read the paragraph.

Look at the underlined sentence.

This is the topic sentence.

My favourite drink is tea and I drink a lot of it. I always have tea in the morning for breakfast. I make a pot of tea and then I drink it all myself. Sometimes I have another pot before lunch. At four o'clock, I make a cup of mint tea. Mint tea is good for waking up and studying.

Tick (✓) the correct information about topic sentences.

A topic sentence is:

- at or near the start of the paragraph.
- at the end of the paragraph.
- the main idea of the paragraph.
- a small detail from the paragraph.
- one or two words.
- a complete sentence.

Exercise 2:

Read the paragraphs. Underline the topic sentences.

I would like to tell you about my uncle. His name is Juma and he is thirty-nine years old. He is my father's youngest brother. I really like Uncle Juma because he is very kind and very funny. He also tells us interesting stories about the places he visits.

I love football! I loved football when I was a small boy, and I love it now. My favourite team is Manchester United. I go to see our local club team every weekend, and now I play for the college three times a week.

My brothers all have jobs. My oldest brother, Edward, is a doctor at the hospital in the centre of the city, and the second oldest, Daniel, is an accountant in an office near our home. My youngest brother is a policeman. I am the only brother who is still at school.

I like most types of books. However, the books I enjoy the most are travel books. I like reading about different countries and the famous places there. When I go on holiday, I always buy lots of books about the place I am visiting. Travel books help you to understand a place.

Exercise 3:

Read the paragraphs.

Write the number of the topic sentence next to the correct paragraph.

Write **TS** where the sentence goes in the paragraph.

Topic sentences

1. I lived in a small town when I was a child.
2. When I have my own children, I want to move to a small town.
3. The town I live in is very small.
4. There are two main advantages of living in a small town.

Paragraph A: Topic sentence ____

First, you know everyone and everyone knows you. This helps you to feel safe, and it is friendlier. Secondly, it is quiet and there are fewer cars. This means there is less pollution than in a big town or city.

Paragraph B: Topic sentence ____

It was a very nice place to live then. Now it is much bigger than before. More people live there and some big businesses opened offices there. My parents still live there but they say it was better in the past.

Paragraph C: Topic sentence ____

I don't want my children to live in a big city because a big city is not as friendly or as safe as a village. I want to move to the village where my grandparents live. The children can play in the street there and everyone knows each other.

Paragraph D: Topic sentence ____

There are only a few food shops and one school here. Most people go to the big city to go shopping for clothes and gifts. There is a doctor's but there isn't a hospital. Again, you need to go to the city if you need the hospital. However, our town is very nice and it has a beautiful park.

TOPIC SENTENCES Worksheet 2: Choosing and using topic sentences

Exercise 1:

Read the paragraph and tick (✓) the best topic sentence.

<p>Topic sentences:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Japan is a very beautiful country.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> B: Japan, for example, makes computers.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> C: Japan is a very important country.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> D: Japan makes cars.</p>	<p>Paragraph:</p> <p>_____ It produces many cars, such as Toyotas and Nissans, which it sells all over the world. It also produces electrical goods such as televisions and DVDs. Tokyo, the capital of Japan, is one of the biggest and most modern cities in the world.</p>
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What is wrong with the other topic sentences? Match them to the problems.

<p>Problems:</p> <p>It is an example.</p> <p>It is a smaller idea, not the main idea.</p> <p>It is about something different from the other sentences.</p>	<p>Topic sentence:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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Exercise 2:

Read the two topic sentences. Write the other sentences in order below the correct topic sentences.

<p>1. Computers are very useful for learning English.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>1. I need to buy a new computer.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>.....</p>
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<p>I am going to give my old computer to my younger sister.</p> <p>You can do your homework on them.</p> <p>You can use them in different ways.</p>	<p>You can also use online dictionaries and play games in English.</p> <p>I need a faster one for my college work.</p> <p>My computer is very slow.</p>
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Exercise 3:

Read the topic sentence and write the rest of the paragraph.

Mobile phone are very important to many people now.

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Write a Topic Sentence

The topic sentence in a paragraph clearly states the main idea of the paragraph. While it is usually at the beginning of the paragraph, it also can be in the middle or end of it.



Example: Everyone should wear a life jacket when they are on a boat. Life jackets have been proven to save lives. No one can predict when an accident might happen. There may not be enough time in an emergency to put on a life jacket. But if you are already wearing it, it may save your life.

The topic sentence in the example is underlined. The rest of the sentences in the paragraph support the topic sentences.

Below are topics for paragraphs. Write a topic sentence for each topic.

1. Is playing sports fun?
2. What is the best pet?
3. Are bicycle helmets important?
4. Why should people vote?
5. Is it better to do homework right after school or after dinner?
6. Should movie theaters give discounts to children?
7. Is summer vacation too long?
8. Are grades important?