

TOPIC SENTENCES

Definition: The topic sentence is included in every paragraph and serves to indicate the main idea to be discussed. This is not to be confused with the thesis statement, as the thesis statement only exists in the introduction.

Things to consider:

- The topic sentence should identify the main point of the paragraph. To choose an appropriate topic sentence, write an outline of what your paragraph will be about.
- Your supporting details will be the any and all sentences that are not the topic sentence. These should work to develop or explain your topic sentence.
- A topic sentence is neither too general nor too specific. Look for a topic sentence that better approximates the main idea of the topic and not a specific idea.

EXERCISES

Given examples of limited situations, write a topic sentence for use in a paragraph.

1. Benefits of having close friendships.

2. Importance of ethnic representation on social media.

3. Air pollution in large cities

4. Training a dog
