English 146: Exercise on Paragraph Unity Dr. Gerry Baillargeon

Unity: Every sentence in a body paragraph supports the paragraph topic sentence. Below is a direct paragraph divided up into main sentence and numbered supporting sentences. Put an X beside each supporting sentence that is irrelevant to the controlling idea and that, therefore, violates paragraph unity:

Main sentence: Egypt was civilized long before there was any written history of the country.

Supporting Sentences:

- 1. Egypt has an area of 386,000 square miles.
- 2. Ancient Egyptians knew so much about embalming that some of their mummies are preserved for us to view in museums.
- 3. It is these treasures that the world is concerned about saving.
- 4. Early Egyptians carried on commerce with neighbouring nations.
- 5. They studied and were successful with military strategy.
- 6. They lived under a system of government controlled production.
- 7. A wide area of fertile farmland edges the Nile.
- 8. They were a religious people.
- 9. The Egyptians built great halls and temples whose ruins still stand.
- 10. Without modern machinery, they built great pyramids near Cairo.
- 11. Tourists come in great numbers to view Egypt's ruins.
- 12. Long before the birth of Christ, Egyptians knew how to turn wastelands into arable fields.
- 13. They encouraged the arts, holding great meetings where learned men gathered.
- 14. In 1945, Egypt gained a charter membership in the United Nations.