

OLYMPIADS SCHOOL/GRADE 7 AND 8 WRITING/HOMEWORK 11**NAME (FIRST AND LAST):**_____ **GRADE:**____**Answer these questions; write the CORRECT WORD in the blank**

1. A group of sentences about one main idea is a _____
a) topic b) detail c) paragraph.
2. Paragraphs usually contain _____
a) a topic sentence one or more detail sentences b) both a topic and one or more detail sentences.
3. The topic sentence contains the _____
a) main idea b) the details c) an example.
4. Topic sentences can be anywhere in a paragraph, but they are most often...
a) first b) last c) in the middle
5. Detail sentences _____
a) support the topic b) give proof c) give examples d) give additional information
e) all the above.
6. Topic sentences tend to be more _____
a) specific b) general.
7. Detail sentences tend to be more _____
a) specific b) general
8. If a paragraph has only one sentence, it's likely to be the _____
a) topic b) detail
9. Is the sentence: "Mr. Doyle ate the Big Mac." _____
a) a topic sentence? b) a detail sentence? c) can't tell when it's by itself.
10. Which sentence is the topic sentence? _____

a) Mr. Doyle ate the Big Mac. b) It was very tasty with pickles and catsup. c) It was the best Big Mac he had ever had. d) His friend had bought it for him.

Commas

Add where necessary

1. Alyssa Clark M.D. has been our family's doctor for over fifteen years.
2. The poster on the back wall Lauren is made up of eight smaller posters.
3. Because he had missed so many days of classes Matthew had to go to summer school.
4. We still don't know everything about the tigers do we?
5. "A purple cow" the man at the soda fountain said "is just grape soda and vanilla ice cream."
6. "Where is your jacket?" my mother asked. "Did you leave it at school again?"
7. "Walking on the beach at sunset" she sighed "is so peaceful."
8. Steven Young Admiral U. S. Navy was chosen as the head of the Judge Advocate General's Corps.
9. David Williams Principal has started a new program to help the students with their math skills.
10. John Moore Dean of Admissions interviews all of the students applying to his university.

Rewrite each sentence using the correct punctuation.

1. It was Dr. Thompson's job to introduce the guest speaker Cameron Thompson Ph.D.
2. Christian Thompson Admiral U. S. Navy was chosen as the head of the Judge Advocate General's Corps.
3. Hailey Smith M.A. is the new counselor at the high school.
4. Christopher and Nicholas neighbors just moved from Jordan to the United States.

5. Jessica and Brittanys dance recital has been rescheduled for May 24.
6. Dr. Johnson asked Ethan, Did your family visit the beach last summer?
7. My father, James told us, is a volunteer fireman.
8. would you like to take a cruise through the greek islands or explore the scandinavian coastline?
9. the bar mitzvah marks the time a boy is recognized as a man in the jewish faith.
10. The meal ended with hot apple pie coffee and vanilla ice cream.

Underline the topic sentence

1. Adventure tourism is a different way for tourists to see New Zealand. This type of tourism uses the plentiful natural resources - mountains, rivers, lakes, wilderness areas and historical sites to provide adventure, thrills and challenges which are low risk but high in excitement. For example, the coastal areas in New Zealand are great for canoeing and kayaking. White-water rafting is another popular water adventure tour. However, if you would rather keep your feet on the ground, New Zealand has over 100 developed walkways in addition to the tracks in the 12 National Parks. Because more and more tourists are interested in learning about New Zealand by doing exciting and unusual activities, adventure tourism will continue to grow.

2. No matter how you slice it, there are only 24 hours in a day. To be successful at university, students need to learn good time-management skills. The first skill is not taking on more than you can handle. If you are a working part-time, have a family and are involved in a community organization, then taking a full course-load at university will be too much. Another time management skill is reasonably estimating the time required to perform each of the tasks at hand. For example, deeply reading a chapter from a course text cannot be completed in between television programs. Finally, actually doing what needs to be done seems obvious, but is a very difficult skill. You may find that cleaning out your wardrobe becomes vital when you are avoiding study. Procrastination is a time manager's enemy. By learning time management skills your university study will be successful and most importantly enjoyable.

3. The heart weighs about 11 ounces and is the size of a clenched fist. The heart of a man performs at about 60 to 80 beats a minute. In a year it beats some 40 million times. At each beat it takes in nearly a quarter of a pint of blood; in a single day it pumps 2,200 gallons of blood, and in the course of a single lifetime about 56 million gallons. Is there any other engine capable of carrying on such heavy work over such a long period of time without needing to be repaired? Obviously the human heart is a small yet highly efficient piece of equipment.

Evaluate topic sentences

Write 'G' if the topic sentence is too general and 'S' if it is too specific

1. _____ Learning a new language is challenging.
2. _____ Dinner for two at my favorite Italian restaurant costs 25\$
3. _____ The new day-care center opens earlier than most
4. _____ Many rules of etiquette have changed over the past 25 years.
5. _____ Passive cigarette smoke makes me feel sick.

Fact or Opinion?

Write fact if the sentence is a fact. Write opinion if the sentence is an opinion.

1. _____	The gardener chased the rabbits out of his cabbage field.
2. _____	Sleeping in a tent is the best part of camping.
3. _____	It is all right to lie if it will get you out of trouble.
4. _____	If the president dies in office, the vice president becomes the president.
5. _____	It is never too late to set goals for your life.
6. _____	The Jacksons are not very nice people.
7. _____	Hillary Duff is an awesome singer.
8. _____	Robert Louis Stevenson was a very good writer.
9. _____	The mayor made a speech to discuss the city's crime rate.

10.	_____	It would be more fun to be a bird than a fish.
11.	_____	The Dallas Cowboys and the San Francisco 49er's have both won the Super Bowl five times.
12.	_____	We watched our dog run in a circle chasing his tail.
13.	_____	The mall in our town is a great place to shop.
14.	_____	President Woodrow Wilson established the League of Nations.
15.	_____	I am going to make a better grade on the math test than anyone else.

Write complete sentences for the prompts below.

1. Write a fact using the word acceleration.

2. Write an opinion using the word clasp.

3. Write an opinion using the word signal.

4. Write a fact using the word biodegradable.

5. Write an opinion using the word explore.

Writing topic sentences

Patience

Create a topic sentence.

For example, recently I began taking my two-year-old dog to obedience school. After four weeks of lessons and practice, she has learned to follow only three commands--sit, stand, and lie down--and even those she often gets confused. Frustrating (and costly) as this is, I continue to work with her every day. After dog school, my grandmother and I sometimes go grocery shopping. Inching along those aisles, elbowed by hundreds of fellow customers, backtracking to pick up forgotten items, and standing in the endless line at the checkout, I could easily grow frustrated and cranky. But through years of trying times I have learned to keep my temper in check. Finally, after putting away the groceries, I might go out to a movie with my fiancé, to whom I have been engaged for three years. Layoffs, extra jobs, and problems at home have forced us to postpone our wedding date several times. Still, my patience has enabled me to cancel and reschedule our wedding plans again and again without fuss, fights, or tears.

A Frightful Imagination

Create a topic sentence.

For instance, when I was in kindergarten, I dreamed that my sister killed pets with a television antenna and disposed of their bodies in the woods across the street from my house. For three weeks after that dream I stayed with my grandparents until they finally convinced me that my sister was harmless. Not long afterwards, my grandfather died, and that sparked new fears. I was so terrified that his ghost would visit me that I put two brooms across the doorway of my bedroom at night. Fortunately, my little trick worked. He never came back. More recently, I was terribly frightened after staying up late one night to watch a horror film. I lay awake until dawn clutching my cell phone, ready to ring 911 the moment that spooky little girl stepped out of my TV. Just thinking about it now gives me goosebumps.

A Love of Reading

Create a topic sentence.

When I was a young girl, I would make a tent out of my blankets and read Nancy Drew mysteries late into the night. I still read cereal boxes at the breakfast table, newspapers while I am stopped at red lights, and gossip magazines while waiting in line at the supermarket. In fact, I'm a very talented reader. For example, I've mastered the art of talking on the phone while simultaneously reading Hazel Hampton or Stephen King. But what I read doesn't matter all that much. In a pinch, I'll read junk mail, an old warranty, a furniture tag ("DO NOT REMOVE UNDER PENALTY OF LAW"), or even, if I'm extremely desperate, a chapter or two in a textbook.

Writing task

Making a Formal Argument – \$5 or a Lottery Ticket

Directions: Answer the question below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples/facts - at least one of each.

Question: Which is better: five dollars or a lottery ticket? Write a one-two paragraph article defending your position. Begin with the thesis statement.

Punctuation rules resource. Download this .pdf and keep for reference.

<http://www.is.wayne.edu/MNISSANI/cr/punctuation.pdf>

***WE WILL BE WRITING AN ESSAY SOON. CHOOSE A TOPIC
PLEASE BRAINSTORM A THESIS FOR PROFESSIONAL TOPICS BELOW***

1. _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

THE END