Assessment – Organize Content

A step-by-step outline in an oral presentation is an example of which type of logical pattern?

* 1. Topical order
  2. Problem and solution
  3. Chronological order
  4. Spatial order

Answer: C

Identify the main idea in this passage:

Tsunamis, large ocean waves caused by underwater earthquakes, can be deadly and destructive. For example, in December 2004, an underwater earthquake triggered a massive tsunami throughout the Indian Ocean. The tsunami killed more than 200,000 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to the coasts of numerous Southeast Asian countries.

The stated main idea sentence is

A) Tsunamis

B) Tsunamis, large ocean waves caused by underwater earthquakes, can be deadly and destructive.

C) The tsunami killed more than 200,000 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to the coasts of numerous Southeast Asian countries.

Answer: B

Directions: Read each paragraph and determine its topic. Then select the answer choice that tells the stated main idea sentence.

Passage One

Passing fears are common in early childhood. Many 2- to 4-year-olds are afraid of animals, especially dogs. By 6 years, children are more likely to be afraid of the dark. Other common fears are of thunderstorms, doctors, and imaginary creatures.

1 The topic of this paragraph is

A) fear.

B) passing fears.

C) two-to-four year olds fear of animals.

D) common fears

Answer B

2 The stated main idea of this paragraph is

A) Passing fears are common in early childhood.

B) Many 2- to 4-year olds are afraid of animals, especially dogs.

C) By 6 years, children are more likely to be afraid of the dark.

D) Other common fears are of thunderstorms, doctors, and imaginary creatures.

Answer A

PassageTwo

Congratulations! You have been offered a job. The time has come to negotiate your salary. The question to ask yourself is: "How much am I worth?" Your answer will likely affect the outcome of your salary negotiation. The point is, in order to negotiate the best possible salary, you must convince both yourself and the employer of the value that you will bring to the job.

3

The topic of this paragraph is

A) congratulations.

B) being offered a job.

C) asking yourself how much you are worth.

D) negotiating the best possible salary.

Answer: D

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The stated main idea of this paragraph is

A) You have been offered a job.

B) The time has come to negotiate your salary.

C) The question to ask yourself is: "How much am I worth?"

D) The point is, in order to negotiate the best possible salary, you must convince both yourself and the employer of the value that you will bring to the job.

Answer: D

Passage three

Don't wait for your company to send you to school. Determine your needs and ask about the company's training program. If they don't have one, sign up for classes at a local college. When it comes to your profession, you should be a lifelong learner. Put a high priority on learning new skills and on personal growth and professional development. Learn new software technology and improve interpersonal and writing skills.

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The topic of this paragraph is

A) waiting for your company to send you to school.

B) the company's training program.

C) being a lifelong learner.

D) new software technology.

Answer: C

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The stated main idea of this paragraph is

A) Don't wait for your company to send you to school.

B) Determine your needs and ask about the company's training program.

C) When it comes to your profession, you should be a lifelong learner.

D) Learn new software technology and improve interpersonal and writing skills.

Answer: C