

Practice on Body Paragraph

Question 1: Identify and write which of the following sentences are:

- **Effective written topic sentence**
- **Too broad topic sentence**
- **Too narrow topic sentences?**

Write your answers in the space provided.

1. Public schools do as well academically as private schools, according to statistics.
2. Public schools are too crowded.
3. Bidwell Elementary School is too crowded.
4. American public schools were first established in Philadelphia in 1779.
5. The first public schools in America were founded to meet certain practical needs

Question No. 2 The following group of sentences can be rearranged to form a paragraph. Make a note of the order in which they should be placed (e.g. a., b., c., d.) and put a circle around the letter that corresponds to what you think is the topic sentence:

- I. Later on, people began to write on pieces of leather, which were rolled into scrolls.
- II. In the earliest times, people carved or painted messages on rocks.
- III. In the Middle Ages, heavy paper called parchment was used for writing and books were laboriously copied by hand.
- IV. With the invention of the printing press in the middle of the fifteenth century, the modern painting industry was born.
- V. Some form of written communication has been used throughout the centuries.

Question No. 3 Write a good topic sentence to begin the following paragraph. Remember to include both a topic and a controlling idea/main idea. [5]

For example, the Eskimos, living in a treeless region of snow and ice, sometimes build temporary homes out of thick blocks of ice. People who live in deserts, on the other hand, use the most available material, mud or clay, which provides good insulation from the heat. In Northern Europe, Russia and other areas of the world where forests are plentiful, people usually construct their homes out of wood. In the islands of the South Pacific, where there is a plentiful supply of bamboo and palm, people use these tough, fibrous plants to build their home.

Question No. 4 For the following paragraphs, determine whether the topic sentence is at the beginning or the end of the paragraph, or if it is implied.

1. Our culture celebrates youth and beauty and mass media perpetuates an unrealistic ideal. The evidence is all around us all the time. On the pages of magazines and in TV commercials are images of unbelievably thin and flawlessly beautiful models whose features are enhanced by lighting, makeup, and airbrushing. These images reinforce a vision of a largely unattainable notion of perfection. Even the models are not as perfect as they appear. Yet, people are willing to spend great amounts of money on cosmetics, cosmetic surgery, and other physical enhancements in an effort to appear young and beautiful.

2. Many new cars come equipped with a navigation system. Some new luxury cars, amazingly, can even park themselves. Most have cameras that are activated when you back up. Many will let you know if you are changing lanes or getting too close to something. Some vans and SUVs come with DVD players to entertain the kids in the back seat or have iPod and iPhone connections in addition to state-of-the-art sound systems that play CDs and satellite radio. With twenty-first century technology, automobiles are getting smarter, more comfortable, and easier to drive.

3. Among the pines, the aspens dotted the slopes above and below the trail, creating random shadows as the light breeze caused their leaves to flutter. A chipmunk skittered over a log and disappeared behind a rock. All around, the natural world worked unceasingly. Then a candy wrapper that was stuck in a clump of grass rattled and blew across the trail, disrupting the tranquility of the moment.

Question No. 5 Select the most suitable supporting sentence from the list provided below for the following paragraphs:

1. School is our second home. It gives us friends and teachers.----- It is an institution supervised by teachers. The school curriculum is the foundation of our educational life.

- i. Reading is very boring.
- ii. **It is a place for learning and growing.**
- iii. My school is on the top of a hill.
- iv. School is where we have fun.

2. Gardening is my hobby. I love growing plants. It is fun to grow vegetables and fruits.-----
----- It is also healthy to eat garden vegetables and fruits if proper care is taken.

- i. Gardening is done on small scale whereas farming is done on large scale.
- ii. Ornamental plants are very attractive.
- iii. **Growing such vegetables and fruits can also be an income supplement.**
- iv. Medicinal plants can also be grown in home gardens.