



SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPT.ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Topic of Sentence






What is Topic of sentence?

Every paragraph in your writing needs a topic sentence. The topic sentence expresses what the paragraph is about. It is essential for successful writing.

It should include two key things:

- The topic of the paragraph
 - The central point of the paragraph.
- 



What is an effective topic of sentence?

It should:

- ❑ Be a sub point of thesis(It should discuss, in greater specificity, a point discussed or implied by the thesis statement)
- ❑ Set up your claim(Each topic sentence should explicitly establish a claim that the paragraph will prove.)
- ❑ Transition(A strong topic sentence connects or relates to the previous point.)
- ❑ Be your idea(The topic sentence should be a point you make, not a point from one of your sources.)

Note:

Thesis statement expresses the central argument or claim of a paper, a topic sentence begin search body paragraph with a point in support of this larger thesis. Topic sentences provide an essay with structure and organization by breaking break down the thesis argument into a series of smaller claims.



Tips for Writing Topic Sentences

Construct a “mini thesis statement.”

If a thesis is a road map to a paper, then a topic sentence is a guidepost for a paragraph. Think of each topic sentence as a mini thesis, organizing and enabling the development of each paragraph in a paper. It should be a clear, specific, focused, and arguable claim.

Incorporate vocabulary from your thesis.

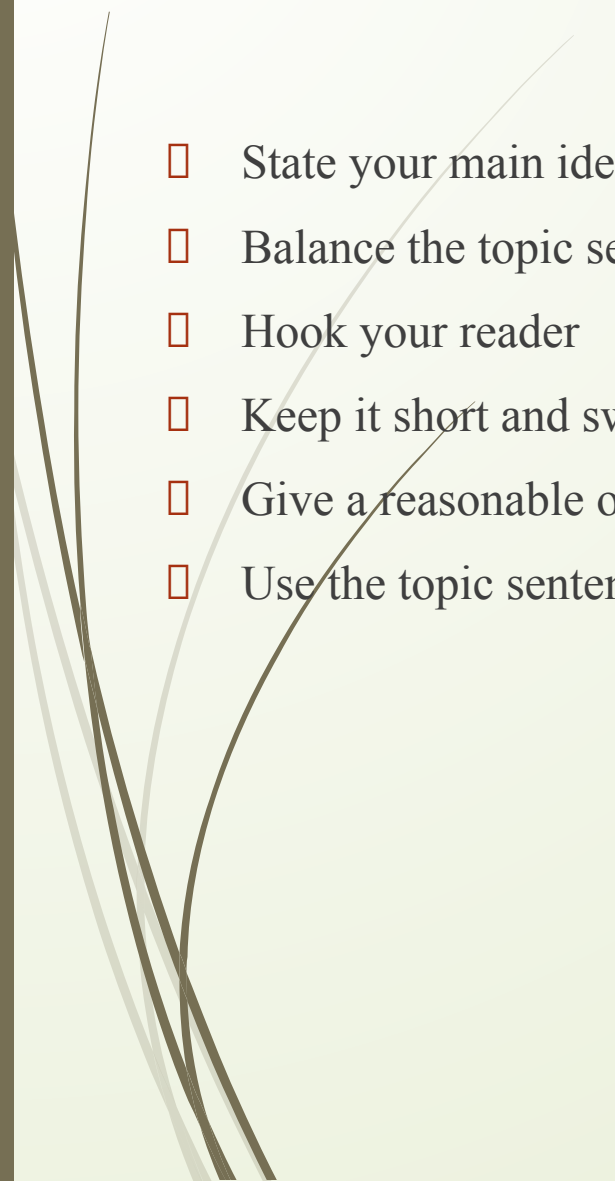
Incorporating some of the same words or language from the thesis statement into a topic sentence can give the argument a sense of coherence. Doing so can also show the reader how a particular point relates to the larger thesis.

Make a topic sentence outline.

To ensure that topic sentences function as sub-points of your thesis, copy and paste all of your topic sentences into a blank document. If these topic sentences create an outline of the paper and a roadmap for the entire argument, then they are functioning correctly. If they do not, then identify the places where topic sentences should be revised to more accurately reflect the content of the argument.



Points to remember

- ❑ State your main idea closely
 - ❑ Balance the topic sentence between specifics and general ideas
 - ❑ Hook your reader
 - ❑ Keep it short and sweet
 - ❑ Give a reasonable opinion
 - ❑ Use the topic sentence as transition
- 



Example of Topic of sentence

- 1. Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452 in Vinci, a small village in Tuscany.** He was the illegitimate son of a Florentine lawyer and property owner. His artistic bent obviously appeared at an early age for when he was 15 he was apprenticed to the painter Verocchio. In 1472 he was accepted in the painters' guild in Florence, where he remained until 1481.
- 2. By then Leonardo's expertise with paint brush and palette, pen and pencil was already well advanced.** And among his early drawings were many sketches of mechanical apparatus and weapons, evidence of his interest in, and knowledge of things mechanical.



Write a topic sentence for each paragraph

1. _____. I usually go skiing every weekend in the winter even though it is expensive. I love the feeling of flying down a mountain. The views are beautiful from the top of a mountain and along the trails. Even the danger of falling and getting hurt can't keep me away from the slopes on a winter day.

- ☐ a) Skiing is expensive.
- ☐ b) Skiing is my favorite sport.
- ☐ c) Skiing is dangerous.

2. _____. North Americans send cards for many occasions. They send cards to family and friends on birthdays and holidays. They also send thank-you cards, get well cards, graduation cards, and congratulation cards. It is very common to buy cards in stores and send them through the mail, but turning on the computer and sending cards over the Internet is also popular.

- a) Sending cards is very popular in North America.
- b) Birthday cards are the most popular kind of card.
- c) It is important to send thank-you cards

3. _____. First of all, we need money to repair old roads and build new roads. We also need more to pay teachers' salaries and to pay for services such as trash collection. Finally, more tax money is needed to give financial help to the poor citizens of the city. It is clear that the city will have serious problems if taxes are not raised soon.

- a) We should raise city taxes.
- b) City taxes are too high.
- c) City taxes pay for new roads. 4

4. _____. For example, a person can have breakfast in New York, board an airplane, and have dinner in Paris. A businesswoman in London can instantly place an order with a factory in Hong Kong by sending a fax. Furthermore, a schoolboy in Tokyo can turn on a TV and watch a baseball game being played in Los Angeles.

- a) Airplanes have changed our lives.
- b) Advances in technology have made the world seem smaller.
- c) The fax machine was an important invention.



Contd...

5. _____. One thing you must consider is the quality of the university's educational program. You also need to think about the school's size and location. Finally, you must be sure to consider the university's tuition to make sure you can afford to go to school there.

- a) It is expensive to attend a university in the United States.
- b) There are several factors to consider when you choose a university to attend.
- c) You should consider getting a good education



Any questions?



References



- http://gmes.deltaschools.com/mrh/MrHughes/Units_of_Study_files/102_Writing_booklet_HW_Introductory.pdf