

Unit 4: Supporting and Concluding Sentences**Activity 1: Predicting Paragraph Content from Controlling Ideas**

Read each topic sentence. Then predict the kind of information you will find in the paragraph. Choose the best answer.

There is a lack of affordable housing across the United States.

1. Many of the nation's poorest people are living in the street or in
a. homeless shelters.
 This real estate agent focuses primarily on second homes for vacation
b. purposes.
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Personal coaching is a new business trend in which "coaches" are hired by people who need encouragement and check-in appointments to track progress in accomplishing a goal or project.

2. There are many funds and grants available for starting a new
a. business if you know where to look.
 If you have trouble with time management, for example, you might
hire someone like this to help you organize your tasks and
b. assignments.
-

It is important for businesses to establish professional dress codes in order to project a certain image.

3. a. Business suits are acceptable for both men and women.
 Inexpensive uniforms can be purchased online and delivered to your
b. home.
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Due to increasing cell phone use, the greater number of telephone towers has created hazardous conditions for the wild bird population.

4. Smaller, more compact cell phones are now for sale, and they come
a. in a variety of colors.
 Every day, birds across the country are losing their lives as they
collide into new towers that have been built on their habitual flight
b. paths.
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Activity 2: Matching Supporting and Topic Sentences

Choose the correct topic sentence for each supporting sentence.

1. Supporting sentence: Because it is an island nation, healthy seafood is abundant here.

- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
a. in calories and fat.
 - Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
b. components.
-

Supporting sentence: When you do not have time to cook, fast food may seem like a good option.

- 2.
- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
a. in calories and fat.
 - Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
b. components.
-

Supporting sentence: More and more people are now watching their fat intake, so they try to avoid eating a lot of fatty burgers, chicken nuggets, and french fries.

- 3.
- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
a. in calories and fat.
 - Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
b. components.
-

Supporting sentence: Along with fresh fish, many varieties of seaweed and other green vegetables containing necessary vitamins are a part of every meal.

- 4.
- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
a. in calories and fat.
 - Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
b. components.
-

Supporting sentence: Items can be stir-fried in very little oil and cooked quickly and healthfully.

- 5.
- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
a. in calories and fat.
 - Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
b. components.
-

Supporting sentence: Unprocessed foods, like fresh vegetables and whole grains, are part of a heart-happy regimen.

- 6.
- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
a. in calories and fat.
 - Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
b. components.
-

7.

Supporting sentence: Not only are the food items unhealthy, the beverages often contain many calories as well.

- Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high
 - a. in calories and fat.
- Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food
 - b. components.

Supporting sentence: Diets that are high in fat can lead to a variety of health problems, including obesity and heart disease.

- 8.
- a. Topic sentence: Fast food, though convenient, is unhealthy and high in calories and fat.
 - b. Topic sentence: Japanese cuisine is known for its healthy food components.

Activity 3: Identifying Supporting Sentences

In the following paragraph, determine if each underlined, numbered sentence is a good supporting sentence or an unrelated sentence.

My dog Chutney likes to eat dog treats although I think it is essential that he gets them only as a reward for good behavior. It is important to me that he is motivated by food because it makes training him so much easier. If I ask him to sit, he knows I will give him a treat if he does what I asked him to do. (1) I also give him a treat if he rolls over when I give the command. (2) Some dogs do not like to roll over. (3) His favorite treats are the brown ones that are shaped like a bone. When we go for a walk on the road, I give him the command "with me" when there is a car coming. (4) If he responds immediately by walking right next to me until the car has passed, then he gets a treat from my pocket. I have to have a good supply of dog treats on hand whenever we go for a walk on the road. That is the most important situation where he has to respond immediately to stay out of danger. He really is a good dog and as a result, he ends up eating many treats every day.

Activity 4: Identifying Key Nouns and Replacement Pronouns

The underlined nouns in the following sentences are key nouns. For each blank, choose the correct pronoun for each key noun.

- Cross-country skis are much lighter now than they used to be. _____ are now made using
1. composite materials and space-age adhesives.

- Our singing group was invited to sing at the county fair. _____ are very excited about this
2. opportunity to get public exposure.

3. I bought a new light bulb for my bed-side lamp. _____ casts a yellow light and should look

nice in my bedroom.

- The horses next door love to run in the field. _____ go out early in the morning and race each other around the pasture.

5. I saw a mouse run under the refrigerator. _____ was so cute with its little nose and big ears.

Activity 5: Analyzing Paragraphs

Read the paragraph. Then answer the questions.

(1) My next-door neighbor and I are going to put up a fence between our two properties so that each of us will feel that we have more privacy. (2) I am supplying the fence materials, and he is bringing the post-hole digger, paint, and paint sprayer. (3) He and I will dig the holes and set the posts this afternoon. (4) My daughter has a dancing lesson today, but my wife can take her there. (5) We will start working on the fence again tomorrow morning. (6) We will then paint the fence a dark green using his paint sprayer. (7) When it is finished being installed, the fence will look good from both our perspectives.

1. Identify the topic sentence.
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2. *Identify a sentence that determines when the work discussed in the topic sentence will begin.*
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3. Identify the sentence that determines who will contribute the materials for the work discussed in the topic sentence.
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4. Identify the sentence that determines what actions will be taken for the work discussed in the topic sentence.
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5. Identify the sentence that does not support the controlling idea of the topic sentence.
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6. Identify the concluding sentence.