

# PARAGRAPH REVIEW WS - 4

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

*The main idea of a paragraph is usually stated in the topic sentence. A topic sentence states both the topic and the idea about the topic that is discussed in the paragraph. A topic sentence should not contain a supporting detail.*

**PART I:** One sentence in each of the following pairs would make a good topic sentence. The other sentence would make a good supporting detail. Write TS for the topic sentence and SD for the supporting detail sentence.

*Example:*     TS My friends and I enjoy playing soccer during lunch time.

SD Most of the time I play forward.

1.     \_\_\_\_\_ Our tour of the South was exciting.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ Next time I hope we see the Mississippi River.
2.     \_\_\_\_\_ First of all, my cat had her kittens.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ Monday was full of surprises.
3.     \_\_\_\_\_ The view from the tower was breathtaking.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ Far off, the river looked like a silver thread.
4.     \_\_\_\_\_ My father enjoys rainy days.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ He says that the gray sky is very restful.
5.     \_\_\_\_\_ This morning I found out it was a turtle.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ Something has been eating my ripe tomatoes in the garden.
6.     \_\_\_\_\_ His model airplane collection is on a shelf.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ Juan's room is a reflection of his many hobbies.
7.     \_\_\_\_\_ Today Pittsburgh's air is much cleaner because of pollution-control efforts.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ The city of Pittsburgh has changed in recent years.
8.     \_\_\_\_\_ He worked for twelve hours a day in a shoe polish factory.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ Charles Dickens had a very traumatic childhood.
9.     \_\_\_\_\_ Carmen had a very scary accident yesterday.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ She fell off her bicycle on Prince Street.
10.    \_\_\_\_\_ My mother wanted to watch the tennis match, and my brother wanted to see his favorite show.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ We had an argument about television in our house last night.

**PART II:** Each group of a title and three sentences contains one *strong* topic sentence. Circle the letter of the best topic sentence.

11. *Spider Webs*
  - a. I gasped when I brushed against the spider web in the dark.
  - b. The orb weaver spins a particularly tricky web.
  - c. The spider webs in the field had dew on them.

12. *Canoes*

- a. Some canoes are covered with canvas.
- b. Canoes tip over easily.
- c. There is a correct way to get in and out of a canoe.

13. *Dandelions*

- a. In spring our yard looks like a dandelion farm.
- b. The dandelion may be an annoying weed, but it has many uses.
- c. Dandelions need lots of sunlight to grow.

14. *Frisbee*

- a. It's not that difficult to train a dog to catch and return a frisbee.
- b. My frisbee got lost.
- c. My brother is the coach of a winning frisbee team.

**PART III:** All of the following sentences could be written in a paragraph, but they are missing a topic sentence. Write a topic sentence that would express the main idea of the paragraph.

15.   a.     Helmets protect your head from injury.  
      b.     Baseball caps shade your eyes.  
      c.     Service caps show your rank.  
      d.     Fancy hats make you look pretty.  
      e.     Sombreros protect you from the sun.

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16.   a.     You can make a swing out of an old tire.  
      b.     You can fill a tire with soil and grow flowers in it.  
      c.     You can line a racetrack with old tires.  
      d.     You can use old tires as fenders on boats.  
      e.     You can make an obstacle course out of old tires.

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17.   a.     The curtains are grimy and torn.  
      b.     The posters on the wall are old and torn.  
      c.     Mark's bed is unmade.  
      d.     Dirty dishes and coffee mugs litter Mark's desk.  
      e.     Clothes are flung over chairs and even on the floor.

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_