Hoch Topic - Topic Sentences

**The purpose of these activities is to:**

* **Helps student differentiate between details and main ideas**
* **Helps students write extended responses**
* **Teaches students sentence structure**
* **Helps students to identify the general idea of their writing**
* **Helps students to address an audience**
* **Helps students identify the purpose of their writing**
* **Ability to summarize**
* **Expand vocabulary and verbiage**

**Tips:**

* **Make sure students are taught about the five types of writing: expository, narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and argumentative.**
* **Encourage students to use appositives in their writing.**
* **Try to model starting topic sentences with subordinating conjunctions.**

**Scaffolding:**

* **Begin by having students brainstorm sentences about a topic.**
* **English teachers: use simple sentences and short texts to teach the difference between topic sentences and details**
* **Harder: Provide longer texts to identify the topic sentence, have students create their own sentence based on details, give students**

**Check out these examples of activities you can use to help your students learn about topic sentences!**

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| Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_  Topic Sentences  Directions: label the topic sentence “T.S.”  \_\_\_\_\_\_ The cell membrane is the outside layer of a cell.  \_\_\_\_\_ Osmosis is the process by which molecules pass through a dell membrane.  \_\_\_\_\_ Molecules pass from a high concentration to a low concentration.  \_\_\_\_\_ A hypertonic solution has a higher concentration. |

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| Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Topic Sentences: Identify Topic Sentence**  Directions: -Identify the topic sentence; then sequence the supporting details in order.  \_\_\_\_\_\_ Harriet Tubman helped slaves to freedom.  \_\_\_\_\_\_ John Brown led a small rebellion against slavery.  \_\_\_\_\_\_ The anti-slavery movement began to grow in the 1800’s.  \_\_\_\_\_ Abraham Lincoln won the presidential election. |

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| Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Topic Sentences: Identifying Topic sentence**  Directions: -Read the paragraphs: underline the topic sentences.   |  | | --- | | I would like to tell you about my uncle. His name is Juma and he is thirty-nine years old. He is my father’s younger brother. I really like Uncle Juma because he is very kind and very funny. He also tells us interesting stories about the place he visits. |  |  | | --- | | I love football! I loved football when I was a small boy, and I love it now. My favorite team is Manchester United. I go to see our local club team every weekend, and now I play for the college three times a week. | |

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| Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Topic Sentence:**  Directions: -Write a topic sentence for each topic.  Topic: **Dogs**  Dogs make great pets!  Topic: **Autumn**  Autumn is a time of many changes.  Topic: **Camping**  Camping teaches people about nature.  Topic:  **Computers**  Think about the many ways in which computers have made our lives better.  Topic: **Ancient Egypt**  Egypt, an important ancient civilization, thrived along the Nile River. |

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| Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Bubonic Plague**  **Directions:** *Read the sentences below and underline the topic sentence.*  Victims had high fevers, delirium and most died.  Fleas, carried by rats in filthy streets, jumped from person to person.  The bubonic plague, or Black Death, swept through most of the world during the 1300s.  One third of Europe’s population, 25 million people, died.  Jews were blamed for the plague and many were forced from their homes and killed. |

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| Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Topic Sentences: Identify Topic Sentence**  Directions: - Use the supporting details to write a topic sentence.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   1. Donald Trump has recently banned travel from seven Muslim countries whose citizens have no history of leading attacks on U.S. soil. 2. Relations with Great Britain have become frayed after 1 million people signed a petition to ban Donald Trump from entering their country. 3. Donald Trump proposed that Mexico pay for a wall between Mexico and the U.S. and when the Mexican president refused, Trump proposed that the U.S. place a tax on all Mexican imports. |

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| Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Translations (geometry)**  **Directions:** *Read the sentences below and write TS next to the topic sentence.*    1. \_\_\_\_\_\_ The original object and its translation have the same shape and size.  2. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Distance and orientation must be preserved.  3. \_\_**TS**\_\_ A translation “slides” an object a fixed distance in a given direction.  4. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Also, the original object and its translation face in the same direction. |