

Topic Sentences 1 EXAMPLE

Aim: To support students in their understanding and construction of topic sentences.

Time: 60 minutes & homework task.

Lesson Suggestion

Lead in

- Distribute **Worksheet 1**. Students ask & answer questions in **Task 1**.
- Feedback: project the **writing criteria** for your course if you have one.

Guided Practice

1. **Task 2:** students read paragraph & check unknown vocab.
2. **Task 3:** teacher & students highlight key terms '*fast food chains, profits, forget sauce*' in the topic sentence using different colours.
3. Students highlight the links to these words in each line of the paragraph. Do the first line together. *Made from largely edible oil products, this condiment is never listed on the menu.*
4. Feedback: **Worksheet 1 ANSWERS.**
5. Distribute **Worksheet 2**. Students read & identify the key words in the topic sentence & then highlight the words that connect to the key words you have identified.
6. Feedback: project **Worksheet 2 (task 1) ANSWERS.**
7. Students complete the rest of **Worksheet 2**.
8. Feedback: project or distribute **Worksheet 2 ANSWERS.**

Freer Practice

- Distribute or project **Worksheet 3**. Students choose a topic sentence & write a paragraph.

Homework

- Students select another topic sentence & write a paragraph.
- Students choose a topic connected to their studies and write a paragraph.

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Worksheet 1: Topic Sentences

Task 1

- Discuss the following questions in pairs.
 1. What is the function of a topic sentence?
 2. How [redacted]?
 3. Does every paragraph need a topic sentence?
 4. What happens [redacted] your paragraph?
 5. How are topic sentences assessed on your course?
 6. Can you look at [redacted]?

Task 2

- Read the paragraph & check unknown words.

Many fast-food chains make their profits from adding a special ingredient called 'forget sauce' to their foods. Made largely from edible oil products, this condiment is never listed on the menu. In addition, this well-kept industry secret is the reason why ingredients are never listed on the packaging of victuals sold by these restaurants. 'Forget sauce' has a chemical property which causes temporary amnesia in consumers. After spending too much money on barely edible food bereft of any nutritional value, most consumers swear they will never repeat such a disagreeable experience. Within a short period, however, the chemical in 'forget sauce' takes effect, and they can be depended upon to return and spend, older but no wiser.

Task 3

1. Highlight the key words in the topic sentence.
2. Highlight the words in the paragraph that connect to the words in the topic sentence.

Many fast food chains make their profits from adding a special ingredient called 'forget sauce' to their foods. Made from largely edible oil products, this condiment is never listed on the menu. In addition, this well-kept industry secret is the reason why ingredients are never listed on the packaging of products sold by these restaurants. Forget sauce has a chemical property which causes temporary amnesia in consumers. After spending too much money on barely edible food bereft of any nutritional value, most consumers swear they will never repeat such a disagreeable experience. Within a short period, however, the chemical in forget sauce takes effect, and they can be depended upon return and spend, older but no wiser.

Source: <http://www.writingcentre.uottawa.ca/hypergrammar/partopic.html>

Worksheet 1: Topic Sentences **ANSWERS**

Paragraph Analysis

- i. Many **fast food chains** make **their profits** from adding a **special ingredient** called 'forget sauce' to their foods
- ii. Made [REDACTED], this **condiment** is never listed on **the menu**.
- iii. In addition, this well-kept **industry secret** is the reason [REDACTED] listed on **the packaging** [REDACTED] **these restaurants**.
- iv. **Forget sauce** has a **chemical property** which causes temporary amnesia in **consumers**.
- v. After **spending** [REDACTED] bereft of any nutritional value, **most consumers** swear they will never repeat such a [REDACTED].
- vi. Within a short period, however, the [REDACTED] effect, and they can be depended upon **return** and [REDACTED] **wiser**.

Source: <http://www.writingcentre.uottawa.ca/hypergrammar/partopic.html>

Worksheet 2: Topic Sentences

Task 1

- Read the following paragraph. Identify the topic sentence & highlight the key words.
- Read the paragraph & highlight the words that connect to the key words in the topic sentence.

Margaret Thatcher's policies were dominated by the philosophy of individual freedom and self-reliance. During the years of the [redacted] cuts in welfare payments and drastic legal restrictions on trade unions. Public industries were sold off [redacted] belief that the [redacted] to all.

Task 2

- Read the following four paragraphs & write a topic sentence for each one.

1) _____
_____. First, Canada has an excellent health care system. All Canadians [redacted] at a reasonable price. Second, [redacted] of education. Students are taught by well-trained teachers and are encouraged to continue [redacted] and efficiently managed. [redacted] and lots of space for people to live. As a result, Canada is a desirable place to live.

2) _____
_____. Although student surveys always show [redacted] online, the take up of purely online courses is low. When questioned, students find that studying online [redacted] [redacted] the human interaction with other students, they also find the time lag in getting answers [redacted].

3) _____
_____. Research shows that countries with [redacted] economically successful and that there is a correlation between a mobile [redacted]. Immigration serves as an [redacted] labour in the UK which has come to depend on migrants to plug gaps in its skilled professions and to do [redacted] to do.

4) _____
_____. Britain had an empire [redacted] a similar role in the world. This meant having a strong navy so the Germans spent a considerable amount of time and [redacted]. Britain [redacted] strengthening its navy even further. This 'naval race' contributed to the increase in [redacted].

Worksheet 2: Topic Sentences **ANSWERS**

Task 1: paragraph analysis

Margaret Thatcher's **policies** were dominated by the **philosophy** of individual **freedom** and **self-reliance**. During the years of the Thatcher governments Britons experienced cuts in **welfare payments** and drastic

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...

Task 2: topic sentences

1. There are three significant reasons why Canada is one of the most prosperous countries to **reside in**. First, Canada has an excellent

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...

Worksheet 3: Topic Sentences

Task

- Select one of the following topic sentences.
- Write a short paragraph of around 100 words.
- Make sure you include supporting sentences and a concluding sentence.

Topic sentences

1. People can avoid [redacted] precautions.
2. There are several advantages to [redacted].
3. Most UK universities require an IELTS score [redacted].
4. Air pollution in the city of London is the worst in the world [redacted].
5. Men and women equality [redacted] significant challenges.