**The Topic Sentence**

**What is it?** – it is the sentence at the beginning of a paragraph

**What does it do**? – it tells the reader what the paragraph is about

**What does it look like?** – it is a full sentence with one clear main idea

There should be no double after reading the topic sentence what the rest of the paragraph is going to be about.

**Exercise 1**

Read the following sentences. Then write the topic of the paragraph is the under the sentence.

1. My favorite place in the world to go on holiday is Norway.
2. In my opinion, cats are the best pet to have in you live in an apartment.
3. In March 2019, the new trains will be ready and passengers will need to know some new information.
4. People say you should drink chocolate milk.

**Exercise 2**

Rate the following Topic Sentences as a Level 1, 2, 3, or 4. Base your level/grade on whether the sentence is interesting, informative, well written and has the correct GSP.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sentence | Level | Reason |
| Robert Frost is one of my favorite poets. |  |  |
| My cat, Whiskers, is afraid of high winds. |  |  |
| The purpose of an engaging book is to grab the reader’s attention so they keep reading. |  |  |
| Interactive notebooks are a unique form of notetaking. |  |  |
| There are several ways that you can study for a test. |  |  |
| I made a connection with this. |  |  |
| An index is usually found at the back of a nonfiction book. |  |  |

**Exercise 3**

Think about how you can write an interesting and informative Topic Sentence for each of the topics listed below. Before you write the sentence make sure you can think of supporting details that might fit with your Topic Sentence. Make sure the sentence is doing its job.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | Topic Sentence | Possible Supporting Details |
| Maine Coon Cats | The Maine Coon is an excellence choice of a pet if you have children in your house. | * Calm, placid nature, not nervous * Doesn’t bite, patient * Is not high energy * Doesn’t shed a lot – good for kids with allergies |
| Safety on the road |  |  |
| Learning Geometry Vocabulary |  |  |
| Types of structures |  |  |
| Giving a presentation |  |  |
| Doing a 30-Day Challenge |  |  |
| Playing basketball |  |  |
| Spending time outdoors |  |  |
| Eating more fruits and vegetables |  |  |
| Selling chocolate milk in elementary schools |  |  |
| Clubs I wish we had at school |  |  |
| Movies about aliens |  |  |