

TABE
ELA-E
PAXEN

Unit-5
Text Types and Purposes

Lesson-34
Supporting Sentences

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ELA-E-34 Supporting Sentences

Lesson 34 Supporting Sentences

3.W.1.b — High, 3.W.2.b — High

A paragraph needs sentences that support the main idea, or topic sentence, of the paragraph. In **opinion writing**, the support may include facts, examples, or reasons. The support should come from trustworthy sources.

In **informative writing**, the support may be examples, definitions, details, steps, or other information.

Example The animal shelter is a great place to volunteer if you love animals and enjoy being busy. I spend two days a week volunteering at an animal shelter. I find it rewarding to help out there. Usually, I spend a lot of time walking the dogs and cleaning their cages. I really enjoy spending time with them. The cats need some attention too, and I clean their litter boxes. I also help the staff with whatever they need. For example, I help answer phones and do paperwork.

(All of the sentences help support the topic sentence and explain why the animal shelter is a great place to volunteer.)



Test Example

1. Read the topic sentence.

I decided to bring my kids to volunteer at the soup kitchen.

Which of these best develops the topic sentence?

- A. Soup is one of my kids' favorite foods.
- B. My kids are twelve and ten years old.
- C. It's important to me that my kids learn to help others.
- D. I'm really busy with work and my family, so I don't have much spare time.

C. This option explains why the speaker has decided to bring the kids to volunteer.

Hint

As you read each choice, ask yourself: *How does this sentence support the topic sentence?*

ELA-E-34 Supporting Sentences

Practice

1 Read the paragraph.

You don't need to join a pricey gym to stay in shape. You don't even need much equipment. For example, running can happen anywhere outside if you have running shoes and comfortable clothes.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. Look for deals online for athletic shoes.
- B. A lot of people join a gym and then never go.
- C. Doing exercises at home, even just push ups, is also great for your fitness.
- D. Exercise is important for people of all ages, as it keeps you in good health.

2 Read the paragraph.

Small fixes around the house are easy to do. For major problems, it's best to check with a professional. For example, someone who understands plumbing should handle big problems with pipes.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. Construction work often depends on the seasons.
- B. Most people can learn to stop a leaky faucet or running toilet.
- C. People with landlords can often ask the landlord to fix something.
- D. Hardware store workers are really helpful and can help you find things.

3 Read the paragraph.

The first Ferris wheel was invented by a man named George Ferris in 1893. He built the ride for a world's fair in Chicago. The Ferris wheel was 264 feet tall.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. It could hold over 2,000 people at a time.
- B. Millions of people visited the fair that year.
- C. Other popular carnival rides include scramblers.
- D. When I go to the fair, I like to ride the Ferris wheel and play games.

4 Read the paragraph.

People had different ways of waking up before alarm clocks were invented. Sunlight was people's first alarm, as it caused people to wake up at dawn. Later on, some cities had people whose jobs it was to walk around knocking on doors for wake-up calls.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. It's hard to stay asleep in a brightly lit room.
- B. I can't imagine life without the alarm clock on my phone.
- C. Some people are morning people, and some people are night people.
- D. Farmers could often count on roosters to crow first thing in the morning.

ELA-E-34 Supporting Sentences

Practice 34

Supporting Sentences

3.W.1.b – High, 3.W.2.b – High

1 Read the paragraph.

In my opinion, comedy is the best sort of entertainment. Life is full of enough hardship. When we watch a movie, play, or TV show, it should take us away from our problems. Besides, laughter is a great stress reliever.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. Everyone has a TV and so can join in the fun.
- B. At some point, everyone should try an improv class.
- C. Everybody loves to laugh, so comedy has broad appeal.
- D. My favorite sitcom is about six aliens from Jupiter.

2 Read the paragraph.

We should bike instead of drive to nearby places. According to a recent survey, Americans drive about 10 billion miles a year making trips to places under a mile away! This causes lots of pollution. Of course, not everyone can ride. But those who can should!

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. Also, if we used bikes, we would get needed exercise
- B. Walking is also a good way to get from place to place.
- C. Driving can come in handy for making quick trips.
- D. Some people also enjoy skateboarding or roller skating.

3 Read the paragraph.

We should get rid of lawns. Lawns use up a vast amount of water. People spend time weeding, mowing, and trimming lawns. We should find other ways to use the space that lawns currently occupy.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. Lawns became popular in the U.S. after the Civil War.
- B. Teenagers can earn money by doing yardwork for others.
- C. There is greenspace in many parks.
- D. Lawns cost money to maintain.

4 Read the paragraph.

The first motorized bicycle—or motorcycle—was invented by Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach. The men built it in 1885. They put an engine on a bicycle. They also put two wheels on the back wheel. These were like training wheels on a child's bike.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. The first motorcycle had a wooden frame.
- B. I think motorcycles are too loud and too dangerous.
- C. Today motorcycles come in many styles.
- D. Riding a bicycle is safer than riding a motorcycle.

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5 Read the paragraph.

Ultimate was invented in 1968 in Maplewood, New Jersey. Joel Silver came up with the idea for the game with flying discs. Students at Silver's high school began to play the game. Soon it spread to colleges. Today, Ultimate is played in many countries around the world.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. During the game, two teams play against each other.
- B. Golf with flying discs is a better game, I think.
- C. I plan to get better and better at Ultimate.
- D. 1968 was an important year in United States history.

6 Read the paragraph.

The best kind of vacation is a "staycation." You can focus on what you would like to see in your hometown. You save money because you do not have to pay for a hotel room.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. People in other countries travel more than Americans.
- B. When you travel, consider taking a train instead of flying or driving.
- C. My favorite vacation spot is Yellowstone National Park.
- D. A staycation may involve a daytrip to a nearby town, park, or other attraction.

7 Read the paragraph.

The first umbrellas were made over 3500 years ago. They were made in Egypt. They protected people from the sun's rays.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. I bring an umbrella wherever I go.
- B. The first umbrellas were made with palm leaves.
- C. Umbrella Day is held on February 10.
- D. Golf umbrellas are very big.

8 Read the paragraph.

The United States did not always have free public libraries. They began in the nineteenth century. Before then, people had to pay fees to use them. Then people passed laws to pay for libraries with tax money.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. Universities have their own libraries.
- B. My favorite library is in Chicago.
- C. Some people thought information should be free to everyone.
- D. Some people worry that libraries today will not be funded.

9 Read the paragraph.

Make sure to wash produce before you eat it. You can use water to wash vegetables and fruit. If you add one cup of vinegar to three cups of water, you have an even better produce cleaner. Then rinse the produce with water.

Which of these best develops the underlined topic sentence?

- A. You can use produce in many ways.
- B. Apples are my favorite fruit.
- C. Bacteria on produce can make you sick.
- D. Include produce with every meal.

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Lesson 34

Supporting Sentences

(3.W.1.b, 3.W.2.b)

1. C. The detail supports the topic of how to stay in shape without going to the gym.
2. B. The detail supports the topic of small fixes around the house.
3. A. The detail supports the topic by describing the first Ferris wheel.
4. D. The detail supports the topic of different ways of waking up without alarm clocks.

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Practice 34

Supporting Sentences

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(3.W.1.b, 3.W.2.b)

1. C. The detail supports the topic sentence by providing a reason why comedy is the best form of entertainment.
2. A. The detail supports the topic sentence by providing a reason why people should bike instead of drive.
3. D. The detail supports the topic sentence by providing a reason why we should get rid of lawns.
4. A. The detail supports the topic sentence by describing the motorcycle.
5. A. The detail supports the topic sentence by describing the game.
6. D. The detail supports the topic sentence by providing reasons why staycations are the best kind of vacations.
7. B. The detail supports the topic sentence by describing the umbrella.
8. C. The detail supports the topic sentence by explaining why public libraries came to be.
9. C. The detail supports the topic sentence by explaining why you should wash produce.