

TOPIC SENTENCES



TIPS FROM THE CARTHAGE WRITING FELLOWS

WHAT IS A TOPIC SENTENCE?



A topic sentence is a sentence at the beginning of a body paragraph that introduces what you will be discussing in that paragraph.

WHAT'S IN A TOPIC SENTENCE?



A topic sentence contains any points or ideas that support your thesis and acts as a transition between previous ideas.

EXAMPLE

Thesis Statement: Having a pet is an accessible and effective outlet to relieve stress.

Body Paragraph 1 (About Accessibility)

Given the variety of domesticated animals, anyone looking for a pet can find one that fits in their price range and home environment.

The topic sentence...

- is specific
 - connects back to the thesis
 - provides an idea of what the following paragraph will cover
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