
Creating a Topic Sentence

Note: The topic sentence is different from the thesis statement.

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What is a topic sentence?

- Main idea of the paragraph and sets up what that paragraph is about.
 - Usually it is the first sentence in the paragraph
 - It can be referred to as a hook.

Thesis Statement vs. Topic Sentence

Thesis Statement

- Is the main idea of an essay. It presents what the essay will be about and the writer's claim.

Topic Sentence

- Tells what the single paragraph is going to be about with each paragraph covering a different subtopic of the thesis.

Creating a Topic Sentence

- The topic sentence acts as a guide to establish the point that the author is trying to make in the paragraph.
 - Typically, the topic sentence contains a specific argument, which the rest of the paragraph attempts to prove.
 - The topic sentence needs to be relatively broad but specific at the same time.
 - It should give just enough information to let the reader know what the writer is trying to convey.
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- It needs to leave room for explanation and support.
 - Once the topic sentence is established, every sentence that follows should back up the topic sentence with facts and descriptions.