

# Topic Sentences

A topic sentence tells the main idea of a paragraph. It usually comes at the beginning.

This tells us the  
**main idea** of the  
paragraph

→ **Rainforests have four main layers. The first layer, the forest floor gets little sunlight. Not many plants grow in this dark place. Above the forest floor is the understory where many shrubs, bushes and younger trees grow. The canopy layer acts as a roof over the understory and forest floor layers. At the top is the emergent layer.**

← The rest of the  
paragraph provides  
**facts and information**

The following paragraphs are missing topic sentences.

Write a topic sentence that introduces the main idea of each paragraph.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

They are very loyal and love to play games with their owners. Dogs are also very loving and caring so they are a great family pet. Dogs are great company. You'll never be lonely if you have a dog!

2. \_\_\_\_\_

One reason sport is good for kids is that it helps build muscle. It is also good for brain development. Sport is a great way to get kids moving while having fun. People who don't exercise much as children often lead unhealthy lives as they grow older.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Slips and falls can cause injuries in the pool. When swimming at a beach, always swim between the flags. The flags show which parts of the beach are safe for swimming. When swimming in a pond or a lake, always check how deep the water is before jumping in. Jumping into shallow water is very dangerous.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Homework teaches children to be responsible for their learning. If children don't learn this at an early age, it will be much more difficult later in life. In addition, homework provides children with extra opportunities to practice skills and concepts taught in class. This can only be a good thing.