

# Topic Sentences

A topic sentence tells the main idea of a paragraph. It usually comes at the beginning. The following body paragraphs have been taken from a report on bushfires and they are each missing a topic sentence. Write a suitable topic sentence for each paragraph.

## Bushfires

*Topic sentence*



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They can ignite naturally, such as from lightning strikes, or they can be caused by people, both accidental and deliberate. Fallen powerlines are a common cause of bushfires. Other causes include unattended campfires or discarded cigarette butts. Unfortunately, bushfires are sometimes deliberately lit.

*Topic sentence*



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Water is an essential resource in extinguishing fires as it helps cool down burning materials and prevents further spreading. Firefighters on the ground wear special protective gear and utilise high-pressure hoses to spray water directly onto flames or smouldering embers. Aircraft equipped with large buckets or tanks filled with water are also used to help control the spread of bushfires.

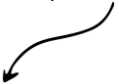
*Topic sentence*



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Bushfires often spread rapidly, leaving little time for residents to evacuate or protect their properties. As a result, many homes are often destroyed, leaving families without shelter and precious belongings. Not only do bushfires destroy properties, but they also result in loss of life for both humans and animals. Additionally, the habitat destruction caused by bushfires continues to impact wildlife for years after a fire is extinguished. The population of species reliant on these habitats may experience declines, as they struggle to find food and shelter.

*Topic sentence*



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Creating and regularly reviewing an emergency plan detailing what to do in case of a fire is essential. Additionally, it is crucial for people in high-risk areas to have a fully stocked first aid kit on hand. Furthermore, property maintenance is very important. Regularly clearing dry leaves and debris from gutters, trimming overgrown vegetation, and keeping lawns mowed short decreases potential fuel sources.