

Topic Sentence or Detail?

A topic sentence is big enough to cover every detail in its paragraph. A detail tells only one part.

A Each group has one topic sentence and three details. Fill in the circle beside the topic sentence.

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| <p>1. ☐ Wool socks keep your feet warm.
 ☐ A good coat blocks the wind.
 ☐ The right clothes make a snowy day fun.
 ☐ Mittens keep your fingers dry.</p> | <p>4. ☐ A camel can go a week or more without a drink.
 ☐ Desert plants and animals have ways to live with little water.
 ☐ A cactus stores water in its thick stem.
 ☐ Many desert animals rest in the shade until the sun goes down.</p> |
| <p>2. ☐ Octopuses have many clever ways to escape danger.
 ☐ An octopus can squirt a cloud of dark ink.
 ☐ It can change color to match the rocks.
 ☐ It can squeeze through a tiny crack.</p> | <p>5. ☐ First, we rake the leaves into a big pile.
 ☐ Then we pick the last apples from the tree.
 ☐ Fall is the busiest season in our yard.
 ☐ We also plant bulbs that will bloom in spring.</p> |
| <p>3. ☐ The drummers keep the beat.
 ☐ The trumpets play the tune.
 ☐ The leader out front shows everyone when to turn.
 ☐ Every person in a marching band has a job.</p> | <p>6. ☐ The Moon has no air to breathe.
 ☐ Its days are boiling hot, and its nights are freezing cold.
 ☐ There is no liquid water to drink.
 ☐ The Moon would be a hard place to live.</p> |

B Look at group 5 again. Write one more detail that fits under its topic sentence.

C Write three details that fit under this topic sentence: *Our classroom is a busy place in the morning.*

Topic Sentence or Detail?: Answer Key

The topic sentence in each group is marked. Answers for B and C will vary; examples are shown.

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| <p>1. ☐ Wool socks keep your feet warm.
☐ A good coat blocks the wind.
☒ The right clothes make a snowy day fun.
☐ Mittens keep your fingers dry.</p> <p>2. ☒ Octopuses have many clever ways to escape danger.
☐ An octopus can squirt a cloud of dark ink.
☐ It can change color to match the rocks.
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B Look at group 5 again. Write one more detail that fits under its topic sentence.

Example: We stack firewood by the back door.

C Write three details that fit under this topic sentence: *Our classroom is a busy place in the morning.*

Examples: We hang up our coats and backpacks.

We turn in our homework. We sharpen our pencils.
