



ELA Virtual Learning

4th Grade

Informative Writing

April 6, 2020



4th Grade ELA Writing Lesson 11: April 6

Learning Target:

Students will be able to introduce a topic by using a topic sentence in a paragraph.

W.2.B

Background

- Review the [anchor lesson](#)
- Read the “[Hanging Tough](#)” article
- Every paragraph has a topic sentence that tells the main idea of the paragraph. It usually answers several of these questions:
 - **Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?**
- A good topic sentence will grab your attention.

Warm Up

1. Watch the video:

[Informational Writing](#)

2. Think about this question:

Why is it important to write good topic sentences?



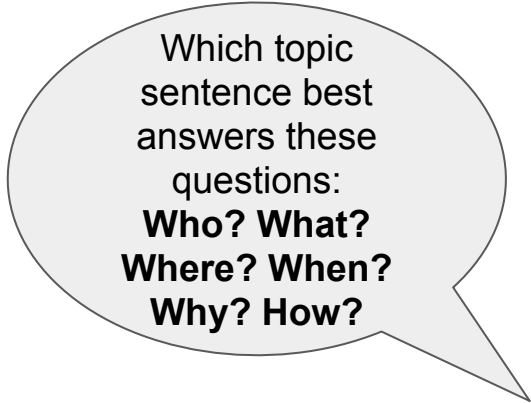
Practice #1

A student is writing an informative paragraph on The Stamp Act and needs a topic sentence.

_____ . It said colonists had to pay a tax on all sorts of printed materials such as newspapers, magazines, and legal documents. It was called the Stamp Act because the colonies were supposed to buy paper from Britain that had an official stamp on it that showed they had paid the tax.

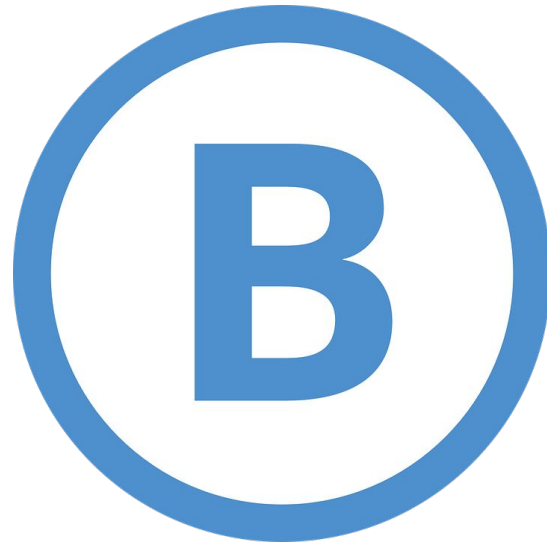
What is the *BEST* topic sentence for this paragraph?

- a) The Stamp Act started the American Revolution.
- b) The Stamp Act was a tax put on the American colonies by the British in 1765.
- c) Samuel Adams started the Stamp Act..



Which topic sentence best answers these questions:
**Who? What?
Where? When?
Why? How?**

Answers the questions: What? Who? When?



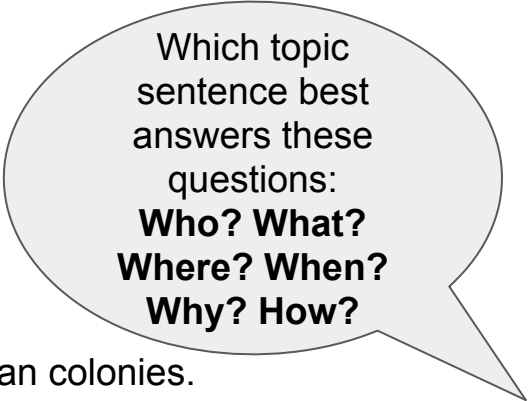
Practice #2

A student is writing an informative paragraph on The Sons of Liberty and needs a topic sentence.

_____ . Their main goal was to protest British taxes, and they took their cause to the streets. They used intimidation to get tax collectors to resign from their jobs. They met in secret meetings, without the British knowing, and decided how they were going to rebel next. The Sons of Liberty would play an important role late during the American Revolution.

What is the *BEST* topic sentence for this paragraph?

- a) Thomas Jefferson helped to write the Declaration of Independence.
- b) The American Revolution began with the Sons of Liberty.
- c) King George III and the English Prime Minister enforced taxes on the American colonies.
- d) American patriots began to form the Sons of Liberty.



Which topic sentence best answers these questions:
Who? What?
Where? When?
Why? How?

Answers the questions: Who? What?



Practice #3

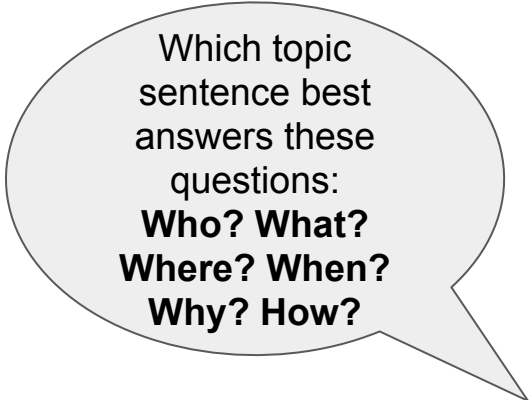
A student is writing an informative paragraph on American patriots and needs a topic sentence.

_____ . They wanted their own country called the United States.

People in the Americas felt they weren't being treated fairly by the British. They were being taxed without any say or representation in the British government. Eventually, patriots spread throughout the colonies and their cries for liberty were being heard from Massachusetts to Georgia. The patriots wanted freedom from British rule.

What is the *BEST* topic sentence for this paragraph?

- a) Benjamin Franklin was a famous American patriot.
- b) Patriots were people who wanted the American colonies to gain their independence from Britain.
- c) American patriots started their cause in Massachusetts..



Which topic sentence best answers these questions:
Who? What?
Where? When?
Why? How?

Answers the questions: Who? What? Where?



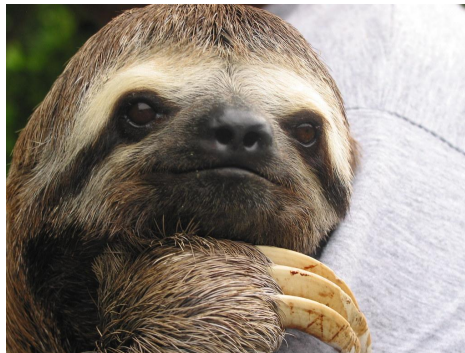
Practice on your own:

Write an informative paragraph about an animal that has similar characteristics to a sloth. Remember to include the main idea of your paragraph, in your topic sentence, by answering some of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why?



MORE Practice on your own:

Watch the [video](#) that goes with the article about the sloth. Write an informative paragraph about the video. Include an effective topic sentence.



MORE Practice on your own:

Look at all these amazing animals! Click on the [video](#) for one animal and write an informative paragraph about that animal. Make sure to include an effective topic sentence.



Practice:

- Watch another animal [video](#) and write an informative paragraph about that animal, including a topic sentence.
- Go to [Nitro Type](#) and practice your typing skills.



Self Check:

Go tell someone in your home your answers.

1. Was this lesson?

- a. Easy
- b. Just right
- c. Hard

2. Tell someone what you learned about topic sentences.

