

Name: _____ ID: _____

Read the following paragraphs. Then choose the best topic sentences for each from the list.

_____. Trail climbing is the easiest. Climbers just walk along trails to the top of a mountain. The trails are not very steep, and the mountains are small. The second type, rock climbing, takes place on steeper slopes and bigger mountains. Climbers generally have to use special equipment such as climbing shoes, ropes, and metal nails called pitons. The third type is ice climbing. Ice climbing takes place only on very high mountains and requires a lot of special equipment. Equipment used in ice climbing includes ice axes and crampons, which are spikes attached to a climber's boots for walking on ice and hard snow. Indeed, the sport of mountain climbing can range from an easy uphill walk to a difficult climb up a frozen waterfall.

- a. Mountain climbing requires special skills and equipment.
- b. The sport of mountain climbing is practiced worldwide.
- c. There are three main types of mountain climbing.

2. _____

_____. For example, Kansas City, in the very center of the United States, is known for its beef, and Kansas City barbecue is everyone's favorite way to enjoy it. In Boston, people love baked beans. In the Southwest, chili, a stew made of meat, beans, tomatoes, and hot peppers, is the regional dish. Wisconsin, a state with many dairy farms, is famous for its cheese. Go to Maryland and Virginia for crab cakes and to the Northeast for clam chowder and maple syrup. Indeed, many U. S. cities and regions have a special food for everyone to enjoy.

- a. There is a variety of food in the United States.
- b. Food in the United States varies from sweet desserts to spicy stews.
- c. Different regions of the United States have their own traditional foods.
- d. Food in the United States is quite delicious.

3. _____, Before the 2004 tsunami in the Indian Ocean, water buffalo stampeded in Thailand, and dogs in Sri Lanka refused to go out for their regular walks. An unusual number of pets ran away from their homes in the days before the 1989 San Francisco earthquake. Japanese researchers have analyzed fishermen's stories about the abnormal behavior of fish in the days or hours before earthquakes in that country. These are just a few examples of strange animal behavior just before earthquakes occur.

- a. Dogs, elephants, water buffalo, and fish can predict earthquakes.
- b. Earthquake prediction is an important science.
- c. Animals may be able to sense earthquakes before they happen.

Crab cakes: fried patties of crab, breadcrumbs, onions, and spices

Chowder: soup

Maple syrup: sweet sap (liquid) from maple trees boiled down to thicken it (similar to honey)

Stampeded: ran away in panic

Refresher classes: classes that teach about new developments in a field