EXERCISE 1

Circle the topic in these sentences.

1. Potatoes are good for you.
2. There are many kinds of rice.
3. The hamburger is a popular food in America.
4. People all around the world drink tea.
5. Bread is the poor man's food.
6. Corn is an important food in Mexico.

EXERCISE 2

Underline the controlling idea in these topic sentences.

1. Bread is an important part of our diet.
2. Bread plays an important part in our religion.
3. Potatoes are easy to grow.
4. Potatoes are the basic food of the Irish.
5. French fries are popular all over the world.
6. Rice is an important part of people's diets in Asia.

EXERCISE 3

Decide which of the two sentences, *a* or *b*, is a fact. Circle the letter of your answer.

1. a. Rice is a cereal.
   b. In some countries, people eat too much rice.
2. a. Potatoes are good for you.
   b. The potato is a vegetable.
3. a. Rice contains starch.
   b. Rice should be cooked in a special pot.
4. a. Drinking coffee helps you concentrate.
   b. Coffee is made from coffee beans.
5. a. Chewing gum is good for you.
   b. Chewing gum is made from plastic and rubber.
6. a. Coffee contains caffeine.
   b. The best coffee comes from Colombia.

EXERCISE 4

Put a check (✓) if the sentence is a good topic sentence.

_____ 1. Bread is made from flour.
_____ 2. Drinking too much coffee may be dangerous for you in several ways.
_____ 3. In some countries, people have very different ideas about drinking tea.
_____ 4. Potatoes are a root vegetable.
_____ 5. Rice is the basic food for half of the world's population.
_____ 6. Potatoes contain many nutrients.
_____ 7. Rice may be cooked in four ways.
_____ 8. Corn has many non-food uses.



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