

Paragraph activity.

Exercise 1

Read the following paragraphs and decide which topic sentence is best.

My favorite programme.

It is aired on television once a week and shows how complete beginners are taught to dance to professional standards in just two months. I enjoy this programme for two main reasons. Its best feature is that it shows that anyone can learn a new skill if they are prepared to work hard enough. Also, it provides an opportunity to listen to a wonderful range of music, from classical to pop, and to marvel at the wonderful costumes the dancers wear. All in all, it is a very enjoyable and uplifting programme that I would recommend to anyone.

- a. It is important to learn a new skill as people do on the programme 'Dare to Dance'.
- b. If you enjoy dancing and music, you will love the programme 'Dare to Dance'.
- c. The best programme I have seen recently is called 'Dare to Dance'.

Exercise 2

Read the following paragraphs carefully and write your own topic sentence for each one.

1. It is very light and airy because it has a big window overlooking the park. My bed is under the window and has a beautiful, vividly coloured patchwork cover that my mother made. There is a desk to the right of my bed where I have my computer and all of my schoolbooks. Above the desk is a photograph of my whole family at my grandparents 50th wedding anniversary. On the other side of the room is the wardrobe and chest of drawers for my clothes. I keep my jewelry and special things on the top of the chest. To sum up, I think my room is wonderful and I love spending time in it reading, chatting with my friends, or just daydreaming.

2. It was special for a number of reasons. Firstly, it was the first time I had gone abroad and my first ever flight, so that was very exciting. Also, because they live so far away, I had not seen my cousins for three years. Consequently, I was really looking forward to meeting up with them again. Last week, I had seen pictures of New England in the 'fall', as they call autumn in the USA. I was really thrilled at the idea of seeing the beautiful trees in all their glorious colors for myself. All in all, it was a holiday I will never forget.

Exercise 3

Write out the following sentences in the correct order to form a logical paragraph.

- a. Another significant problem is that most accidents on the roads are caused by drivers of private cars.
 - b. Furthermore, this unnecessarily large number of cars on the roads leads to traffic jams in our cities and on our highways.
 - c. I believe we should try to reduce the use of private cars.
 - d. It is believed that this increased pollution is responsible for an increase in asthma attacks.
 - e. Secondly, many cars only carry one or two people.
 - f. It is clear, therefore, that we must reduce private car use in order to reduce pollution, the waste of precious fuel and the number of accidents on our roads.
 - g. One good example is the exhaust fumes from cars, which are partly responsible for the increase in pollution.
 - h. The pollution caused by people using their own vehicles are well known.
 - i. These accidents do not only involve the car drivers themselves but cyclists and pedestrians, too.
 - j. This is very inefficient in terms of using fuel.