

ACTIVITY 1

In the following statements, identify the *topic* and the *controlling idea*.

1. Snow boarding is a challenging sport with specific requirements.
2. Multinational companies can offer their employees good benefits.
3. Exercising provides several health benefits.
4. Television commercials are annoying for several reasons.
5. The transport system in Sydney is effective and efficient.
6. The retirement village has brought many benefits to the elderly.
7. There are many advantages of learning the English language in an English-speaking country.
8. Studying business at university requires three prerequisites.
9. Air pollution is damaging and harmful to Earth's ozone layer.
10. The effects of genetic engineering on the environment could be serious.



## ACTIVITY 2

Study the following groups of sentences and select the statement that would make a good topic sentence for a paragraph.

**Question 1:** Paragraph - Mobile phones

**Answer:**

- Mobile phones provide teenagers with many benefits.
- Mobile phones are convenient at night for teenagers.
- Mobile phones are convenient.

**Question 2:** Paragraph - Television

**Answer:**

- Watching television is harmful.
- Violence on television is harmful to children.
- Television is harmful.

**Question 3:** Paragraph – Fitness

**Answer:**

- Walking is beneficial.
- Walking improves the fitness of adults.
- Exercise improves fitness.

**Question 4:** Paragraph - Computers

**Answer:**

- Computers provide e-mail for efficient communication.
- Computers are efficient.
- Computers provide a means of communicating efficiently.

**Question 5:** Paragraph - Smoking

**Answer:**

- The effects of smoking cigarettes are detrimental.
- Smoking cigarettes is bad.
- Smoking is harmful.



**Question 6:** Paragraph – Scuba diving

- Answer:**
- a. Scuba diving is fun.
  - b. Scuba diving is an exciting sport with specific requirements.
  - c. Scuba diving requires a certification.

**Question 7:** Paragraph – Good health

- Answer:**
- a. Good health is important.
  - b. Good health depends on eating vegetables.
  - c. Good health depends on a nutritious diet.

**Question 8:** Paragraph – Drinking

- Answer:**
- a. Drinking is inappropriate.
  - b. Drinking is dangerous.
  - c. Under-aged drinking is dangerous for several reasons.

**Question 9:** Paragraph – Registering at university

- Answer:**
- a. Registering at university takes place on Monday.
  - b. Registering at university is a lengthy and time-consuming process.
  - c. Registering at university requires presenting a letter of offer.

**Question 10:** Paragraph - Travelling

- Answer:**
- a. Travelling in Australia.
  - b. Travelling in the Australian outback is a unique experience.
  - c. Australia is a beautiful country.

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 1

1. Snow boarding is a challenging sport with specific requirements.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
2. Multinational companies can offer their employees good benefits.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
3. Exercising provides several health benefits.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
4. Television commercials are annoying for several reasons.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
5. The transport system in Sydney is effective and efficient.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
6. The retirement village has brought many benefits to the elderly.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
7. There are many advantages of learning the English language in an English-speaking country.  
*Controlling Idea* *Topic*
8. Studying business at university requires three prerequisites.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
9. Air pollution is damaging and harmful to earth's ozone layer.  
*topic* *controlling idea*
10. The effects of genetic engineering on the environment could be serious.  
*topic* *controlling idea*

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 2

1. Paragraph - Mobile phones
  - a. **Mobile phones provide teenagers with many benefits.**
  
2. Paragraph - Television
  - b. **Violence on television is harmful to children.**
  
3. Paragraph – Fitness
  - b. **Walking improves the fitness of adults.**
  
4. Paragraph - Computers
  - c. **Computers provide a means of communicating efficiently.**
  
5. Paragraph - Smoking
  - a. **The effects of smoking cigarettes are detrimental.**
  
6. Paragraph – Scuba diving
  - b. **Scuba diving is an exciting sport with specific requirements.**
  
7. Paragraph – Good health
  - c. **Good health depends on a nutritious diet.**
  
8. Paragraph – Drinking
  - c. **Under-aged drinking is dangerous for several reasons.**
  
9. Paragraph – Registering at university
  - b. **Registering at university is a lengthy and time-consuming process.**
  
10. Paragraph - Travelling
  - b. **Travelling in the Australian outback is a unique experience.**