



# Sentence and Paragraph Writing

## Chapter 5

## Sentence Structure

### Exercise 5.8

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences. Use the correct form of the verb in parenthesis.

1. The number of students at the university \_\_\_\_\_ (have) increased this year.
2. A lot of the problems on the test \_\_\_\_\_ (be) impossible to solve.
3. Most of my friends \_\_\_\_\_ (be) went home for the holidays.
4. Neither of my parents \_\_\_\_\_ (have) studied at university.
5. A majority of the voters \_\_\_\_\_ (be) not going to vote for him.
6. None of them \_\_\_\_\_(be) coming to the party tonight.
7. Each of them \_\_\_\_\_ (have) their own ideas.
8. The price of the pencils \_\_\_\_\_(be) 1000 won.
9. Something \_\_\_\_\_(need) to be done about the problems.
10. None of the coffee \_\_\_\_\_ (be) left.

### Exercise 5.9

Write ten sentences of your own (on a separate sheet of paper) following the rules explained above.

### Dependent Clauses

An independent clause is a complete sentence. It expresses a complete thought and can stand alone. A dependent clause is not a complete sentence. It may have a subject and a verb, but it does not express a complete thought. It is a sentence fragment because it can not stand alone. When a sequence word or other transition word, such as **so** or **because**, is added to a sentence it becomes a dependent clause.

Sammy is hungry.	→	a complete sentence
When Sammy is hungry	→	dependent clause
Susan went to the store.	→	a complete sentence
Before Susan went to the store	→	dependent clause

In order to form a complete sentence or thought, a dependent clause must be joined to an independent clause. Use a comma after the dependent clause if it comes at the beginning of a sentence. Do not use a comma if the dependent clause comes at the end of the sentence.

- As soon as Paul ate dinner, he left. (independent clause at beginning of sentence)
- Paul left as soon as he ate dinner. (independent clause at end of sentence)
- Before Henry goes on a date, he showers and shaves. (beginning)
- Henry showers and shaves before he goes on a date. (end)
- When I study, I always listen to classical music. (beginning)
- I always listen to classical music when I study. (end)

When writing about the sequence of events, dependent and independent clauses can be joined together with sequence words to form complete thoughts. Some common sequence and transition words are **before**, **after**, **as soon as**, **when**, **but**, **so** and **because**.



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## Sentence Structure

### Exercise 5.10

Fill in the blanks in the following paragraph with **before, after, as soon as, when, because, but** or **so**. Some of the words are used more than once.

The children of Mrs. Peterson's class went on a field trip to the city's natural history museum. \_\_\_\_\_ they could go however, they had to give the principle their permission slips that their parents had signed. \_\_\_\_\_ collecting all the slips, the children got on the bus. Many of the children had never been to a museum \_\_\_\_\_ they were very excited about the outing. The drive to the museum took a long time \_\_\_\_\_ they had fun. Mrs. Peterson led the children in singing and playing games \_\_\_\_\_ time went by quickly. \_\_\_\_\_ they arrived at the museum, the group went straight to the dinosaur section. They went to this section first \_\_\_\_\_ they had been studying dinosaurs in class. \_\_\_\_\_ the children saw the display of dinosaur bones, they began asking the museum guide questions. \_\_\_\_\_ the outing was very informative all the children had a great time.

### Exercise 5.11

Look at the sentence fragments below and rewrite them to form complete sentences. Be sure to use correct punctuation and capitalization.

1. before I go to sleep I

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2. i like English class because

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3. after i take a test I

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4. when Elliot finally got his drivers license

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5. as soon as this class is over

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# Sentence and Paragraph Writing

## Chapter 6

## The Paragraph: The Topic Sentence

### Exercise 6.2

Choose the best topic sentence for each of the following paragraphs and put an "x" on the line next to it.

1.     \_\_\_\_\_ a. Korea has a great variety of plant life.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ b. Korea is great!  
       \_\_\_\_\_ c. Korea is a nice place to visit.

There's more to Korean plant life than just rice, apple trees and pine trees. Because of the diversity of Korean soil and environments, it has a wide variety of plants. A drive around the countryside will show you what an interesting assortment of plants there are.

2.     \_\_\_\_\_ a. Flying in bad weather is difficult.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ b. Pilots do a lot of pre-flight preparation.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ c. Pilots make a lot of money and fly all over the world.

They check their plane to make sure that it is working properly. They also make sure that baggage or cargo has been loaded correctly. They check the weather forecast to see if they will run into any bad weather on their trip. Pilots then decide what route they should take, and how high and fast they should fly.

3.     \_\_\_\_\_ a. Doctors work very hard.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ b. Doctors have an effect upon all our lives.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ c. Doctors know a lot about medicine.

When we are sick, they tell us what we have. They give us medicine and other kinds of treatment. Doctors examine us and listen to us tell them how we feel. They tell us what is good for us to eat and how we can have better hygiene.

4.     \_\_\_\_\_ a. Nepal has many colorful celebrations.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ b. Anyone can be a relative in Nepal.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ c. A day of festive in Nepal.

One in particular is the celebration called Tihar. This is a day when "sisters" honor their "brothers" by giving tikka (a red powder mark on the forehead, which is a blessing). Quotes are around "sister" and "brother" because in Nepal these words can mean any relative in the same age range: cousins, children of in-laws, and so forth. During Tihar, special food is prepared and eaten, and everybody gets new clothes.

### Exercise 6.3

Read each of the paragraphs below and write a topic sentence for that paragraph. Remember that the topic sentence should introduce the main idea of the paragraph and also limit what the other sentences can talk about. Be sure the topic sentence is general enough to include all the sentences in the



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## The Paragraph: The Topic Sentence

paragraph.

1. Topic Sentence:

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The prizes are named after Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, who created the prizes in his will. He donated a good portion of his estate to fund the prizes, decided who would judge the winners of each award and also named the prize categories.

2. Topic Sentence:

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The topic of body odors is so offensive that most people will not tell another person he or she has bad breath or body odor. You do not have to cover yourself with perfumes and chew gum constantly. It should be enough to take a shower each day, wear clean clothes and brush your teeth after meals.

3. Topic Sentence:

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When flirting, you should express an interest in an activity which also interests the other person. Ask them about themselves and in the course of the conversation tell them a little about yourself. Suggest that they join you in a casual, non-romantic group activity.

4. Topic Sentence:

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Many governments sponsor several different types of gambling games, including instant-win scratch-off type games, daily games and games where you have to pick three or four numbers. But the game with the biggest jackpot is almost always called Lotto. This game usually involves selecting 6-8 numbers out of 50. If your numbers match the numbers drawn, you win.

5. Topic Sentence:

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In the last hundred years alone, there have been more than 1.5 million earthquake-related fatalities. Usually, it's not the shaking ground itself that claims lives -- it's the destruction of manmade structures and the creation of other natural disasters, such as tsunamis, avalanches and landslides.

6. Topic Sentence:

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Think long and hard about the fact that a tattoo is permanent. What's "cool" at 18 might not be very appealing on a 40-year-old. Also, tattoo removal is more painful and expensive than tattooing. The process usually takes several sessions and offers varying results. Doctors say tattoos can be lightened but not always completely removed.



# Sentence and Paragraph Writing

## Chapter 9

## Writing in the Simple Present Tense

### Exercise 9.1

Change the verbs in parenthesis to ensure subject verb agreement. Also include the correct be verb and correct any errors in capitalization.

I have two sisters in my family. My oldest sister (live) in new york and she (be) teacher. She (be) married and her and husband (live) in a deluxe apartment on fifth avenue. My sister (like) to go to the opera, but bill, her husband, (hate) to. theater. sarah, my youngest sister, (attend) a university in california. She (be) single and (say) she will never marry. She (like) shopping, surfing and partying, but she (do) not (like) studying.

### Exercise 9.2

Change the subject in the sentences below to third person singular. Use a person you know as the subject of the sentence. Rewrite the sentences below. Be sure to use correct the capitalization and punctuation.

1. you exercise every day

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2. i major in industrial design

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3. you enjoy going singing on the weekends

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4. i teach a class at a language institute

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5. you watch TV all night every night

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6. i never finish my homework before class

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### Exercise 9.3

Now write three similar sentences (on a separate sheet of paper) using your own words.



# Sentence and Paragraph Writing

## Chapter 9

## Writing in the Simple Present Tense

### Exercise 9.4

Using the information below, write a short paragraph (on a separate sheet of paper) about the duties that people in these occupations perform. Be sure to use simple present verbs and that the subject and verb agree.

Look at the example on the following page.

#### Teacher



Works in a classroom  
Complete lesson plans  
Give ad grade tests

Teachers Students  
Assigns homework

Teachers work in a classroom teaching a large number of students. Before the lessons, they complete lessons plans. They give students homework assignments and grade them. Every couple of weeks they give students tests to assess their knowledge.

#### Nurse



work in a clinic  
take patient's temperature  
treat patients  
wear a white uniform

#### Fireman



work at a fire station  
put out fires  
provide emergency services  
give classes on fire safety

#### Detective



works at police station  
investigates crime scene  
interrogates and arrests criminals  
appear in court