

Topic Sentences

A **topic sentence** tells the main idea of a paragraph. The topic sentence is often the first sentence of an informational paragraph.

Directions Read the three topic sentences. Write the sentence that would be the best topic sentence for each group of details.

Topic Sentences

Many artists have painted murals.

Murals are not hard to make.

You can see murals in many different places.

1. Put a big piece of white paper on a bulletin board. Decide on a topic such as school sports. Have each person paint one scene for the mural.

Murals are not hard to make.

2. Some murals are painted on skyscrapers near city highways. Others are painted in neighborhood parks or inside public buildings.

You can see murals in many different places.

3. People who lived in caves long ago painted murals. An Italian artist, Michelangelo, painted a famous mural on a ceiling in the 1500s. Many Americans painted murals in the 1960s.

Many artists have painted murals.

Directions Write a topic sentence for the following details.

Some murals show important people. Others show beautiful places. Still others show events from history.

Possible answer: Murals have many different subjects.
