

Name: _____ Date: _____

Topic Sentence Practice

Your English class has just finished more than half of the texts in Unit 1, in which you and your classmates have begun exploring the concept of personal and social identity while reading a collection of poems, short stories, and nonfiction. You will now write an informative paragraph in which you reflect on how one text from the unit thus far is a mirror, reflecting back something about your own personal identity, or a window offering insight into an unfamiliar experience that, in turn, reveals something about your identity, leading you to a deeper understanding of the first essential question of the unit, "Who are you?"

A. Evaluate the topic sentences below to decide which are strong and which need improvement based on the three qualities of a strong topic sentence:

- **Clear:** A topic sentence should provide context by identifying the title, author, and genre of the text being written about.
- **Informative:** A topic sentence should fully answer the prompt and explain the main idea(s) of the paragraph.
- **Supportable:** A topic sentence should be supportable with evidence.

Topic Sentence	Strong or Needs Improvement?	Why? (Based on the 3 qualities of a strong topic sentence)
1. Get ready for an amazing paragraph in which you will learn more about me.		
2. "Trev" by Jacqueline Woodson tells the story of a child named Trev who is born a girl but knows he is a boy.		
3. Reading the short story "Super Human" by Nicola Yoon allowed me to look through a window into how a police officer may view a teen of color in comparison to a white teen, like myself.		
4. Both the author and I understand what it is like to be an introvert.		

B. Choose one of the topic sentences that needs improvement, and rewrite using the criteria of a strong topic sentence.

Topic Sentence Number	Revised Topic Sentence