

Name _____

Topic Sentence Match Answer Key

1. Cause & Effect (warming oceans → dying reefs → effects)
2. Chronological/Sequence (step-by-step birdhouse building)
3. Compare & Contrast (bicycles vs. cars: similarities and differences)
4. Problem & Solution (library issue → solutions)
5. Description (rainforest details)

Teacher Notes:

- Stress that the **topic sentence predicts the whole structure** of the paragraph.
- Encourage students to underline **signal words**:
 - Cause & Effect → *because, leads to*
 - Sequence → *first, then, finally*
 - Compare & Contrast → *although, differ*
 - Problem & Solution → *issue, problem, solution*
 - Description → *filled with, includes*
- For Part 2, give struggling students sentence starters ("One difference between...", "First, you...", "The problem is...") while challenging advanced students to create tricky or creative topic sentences that still clearly show a structure.