**Types of Topic Sentences**

There are three types of topic sentences: General Topic Sentences, Clueing Topic Sentences, and Specific Topic Sentences.

**General Topic Sentence:** Names the main idea of the paragraph.

**EXAMPLE:** This year’s presidential race promises to be exciting.

**Clueing Topic Sentence:** Names the main idea, and provides some information about the details to be included in the paragraph.

**EXAMPLE:** There are three reasons that this year’s presidential race promises to be exciting.

**Specific Topic Sentence:** Names the main idea, and names the specific details to be covered.

**EXAMPLE:** The backgrounds, strategies, and personalities of the candidates indicate that this year’s presidential race will be exciting.

**DIRECTIONS:** Read each topic sentence. Is it general (G), clueing (C), or specific (S)? Write your answer on the line.

1. There are four ways to ensure you get good grades.  
   **G**

2. Global warming is caused by factory farming and industrial operations.  
   **C**

3. Charles Darwin was a naturalist, an explorer, and a writer.  
   **C**

4. The students offered several reasons for wanting a new gymnasium.  
   **C**

5. The Outer Banks in North Carolina is a very popular vacation spot.  
   **C**

6. Kim is my best friend because she has many great qualities.  
   **S**

7. Reality television marks a particular era in entertainment.  
   **S**

8. In many cases, heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure can all be attributed to an individual’s lifestyle.  
   **S**