What’s the Topic?

The topic sentence of a paragraph states the main idea of the paragraph. It is usually the first sentence, but it doesn’t have to be. The rest of the sentences in the paragraph provide details that support the topic sentence.

DIRECTIONS: Read each topic sentence. Write what you think the topic of each sentence is going to be.

1. Although it is enjoyed by millions every day, the production of coffee is actually an extremely controversial subject.

2. Most people think that diet and exercise are the key to good health; but the ability to relax (or not) is being touted by some health experts as the real indicator of whether or not a person is likely to develop one of the commonly called “lifestyle” diseases.

3. There are three excellent reasons to create a “vacation play list” in your iPod before going on vacation.

4. Anecdotal evidence suggests that people sometimes sleep better when away from the everyday demands and responsibilities of being at home.

5. Color affects us in three very profound ways.

6. When it comes to feeling rested, how you wake up in the morning is more important than when you wake up.