

C2.3 Unit 9

- I. **Read the paragraph and underline the topic sentence. If there is no topic sentence, decide which the best one would be.**
1. For me, a dog is a better pet than a cat. When I come home from work, for example, my dog comes to meet me at the door. He is always glad to see me. My cat, on the other hand, couldn't care less whether I'm at home or not, as long as I keep filling her food dish. Another good thing about a dog is that you can teach him tricks. Cats, however, can't be bothered to learn anything new. The best thing about a dog, though, is that he's a great companion. I can take my dog on hikes and walks. He goes everywhere with me. As we all know, you can't take a cat for a walk.
 2. For one thing, you should always remove your shoes when you enter a Japanese home, and you should leave them pointing toward the door. Another suggestion is to make sure that you bring a gift for your Japanese hosts, and to be sure to wrap it. A third recommendation is to be appreciative of things in a Japanese house, but not too appreciative. Finally, remember that when you sit down to eat, you do not have to accept every kind of food that you are offered, but you are expected to finish whatever you do put on your plate.
 3. One reason is that when commercial flights began, all pilots were male. Men were hired because they had flight experience obtained in combat. Women, not having been in combat, had no flight experience. A second reason is simply prejudice: The powers in the airline industry presumably believed the stereotype that there are certain jobs that women cannot do as well as men. A third reason is inertia and the status quo—flying has mostly been a male-dominated profession since it began, and it takes time to change things. Eventually we will see more and more female commercial airline pilots, but for the present, old ideas die hard.

II. Each of the following word groups is a fragment but is also a potential topic sentence. Make necessary additions to each.

1. A city where exciting and mysterious things happen.
2. Reasons why college isn't for everybody.
3. Wild animals not making good pets.
4. Regular exercise and its benefits.

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III. Complete the sentences using your own ideas

1. According to the rules, _____.
2. I can't teach that class today: I'm sick. As for the rest of the teachers, _____.
3. As far as I can remember, _____.
4. Concerning his background, _____.
5. Considering the strength of the opposition _____.
6. Well, from where I stand, _____.
7. Speaking about the conference, _____.
8. Speaking of travelling, _____.
9. While on the subject of _____.
10. Personally, _____.