

Unit 1: Where We Live

The Paragraph

A good paragraph has two main parts:

1. a topic sentence that gives the main idea
2. supporting sentences that give details

A Read the paragraph. Underline the topic sentence and take notes on the supporting details. What kind of information do the supporting details provide?

Capital City has had a public library since 1993, but in recent years, fewer people have been using it. Some people drive to nearby Bensonville because the library there has a larger selection of books and periodicals. Others say they are buying more books online these days. Perhaps the most important reason for the decline is the limited number of computers at the Capital City library. There are so few public computers, in fact, that people often have to wait in line if they want to use one of them.

Detail 1: _____

Detail 2: _____

Detail 3: _____

B Read the recent statistics about the city of Martindale. Write a paragraph with a topic sentence and supporting sentences that explains why some people have left Martindale and moved to other places. Use your imagination to give details.

Reasons residents have left Martindale

59 percent: Limited employment opportunities

23 percent: Cold climate

14 percent: Dissatisfaction with recreation in the area

4 percent: Other reasons
