

Handout for Organization and Topic Sentence Practice

Directions: Below is a deconstructed essay. The proper order of the paragraphs has been jumbled up. Write a number next to each paragraph so that the essay flows in a logical manner.

1

_____ North American pets are the most pampered in the world. The dog is the most popular of all pets. People own dogs for three main reasons: companionship, security, and friendship.

_____ Companionship, security and friendship are three main reasons for people to own a dog. Be sure, however, before you make the big step of owning one because dogs may live as long as 16 years.

_____ Security may be important, but meeting people is a significant result of dog ownership. While walking, dogs love to sniff each other and make acquaintance. While they do, the owners can strike up a conversation, too. Dog parks provide owners with a place to have conversation while the dogs play together. If you are lonely in the city, perhaps a dog can help you with meeting new friends.

_____ Dogs are good companions for people. For example, older people often keep a small dog when children have moved away. They will talk to the dog and the dog will always listen. When the older person comes home, the dog wags its tail and is glad to see them. Dogs are great companions.

_____ Dogs are not only good companions, but they also provide security. Often, a dog will smell someone near a house and begin to bark. It is especially important when a person is away at work or shopping. If someone comes in, the dog will surely bite him. Security is an important reason for people to own a dog.

Title: _____

Your turn! Fill this out for your paper and make sure the organization is how you want it!

¶1:

Topic Sentence: _____

Thesis or summary: _____

¶2:

Topic Sentence: _____

Summary: _____

¶3:

Topic Sentence: _____

Summary: _____

¶4:

Topic Sentence: _____

Summary: _____

¶5:

Topic Sentence: _____

Summary: _____
