

TS6 - Topic Sentences - suggested answers

- A) **Soon after the spraying had ended there were unmistakable signs that all was not well.** Within two days dead and dying fish, including many young salmon, were found along the banks of the stream. Brook trout also appeared among the dead fish, and along the roads and in the woods birds were dying. All the life of the stream was stilled. Before the spraying there had been a rich assortment of the water life that forms the food of salmon and trout — caddis fly larvae, living in loosely fitting protective cases of leaves, stems or gravel cemented together with saliva, stonefly nymphs clinging to rocks in the swirling currents, and the wormlike larvae of blackflies edging the stones under riffles or where the stream spills over steeply slanting rocks. But now the stream insects were dead, killed by DDT, and there was nothing for a young salmon to eat.
- B) **One of the strongest arguments in favour of a relaxed approach to immigration is that the UK benefits economically from immigrant labour.** Research shows that countries with high levels of immigration are economically successful and that there is a correlation between a mobile labour force and economic prosperity. Immigration serves as an important source of both skilled and unskilled labour in the UK which has come to depend on migrants to plug gaps in its skilled professions and to do jobs that the local population are unwilling to do.
- C) **Online learning has its problems.** Although student surveys always show students like to have access to materials online, the take up of purely online courses is low. When questioned, students find that studying online can be a lonely and unsatisfying experience. Not only do students miss the human interaction with other students, they also find the time lag in getting answers to their questions very frustrating.
- D) **One of the most important factors leading to the outbreak of World War One was the arms race between Britain and Germany.** Britain had an empire at this time and Germany wanted a similar role in the world. This meant having a strong navy so the Germans spent a considerable amount of time and effort building up its naval force. Britain responded to this threat to its dominance by strengthening its navy even further. This ‘naval race’ contributed to the increase in tension between the two countries.
- E) **Margaret Thatcher’s policies were dominated by the philosophy of individual freedom and self-reliance.** During the years of the Thatcher governments Britons experienced cuts in welfare payments and drastic legal restrictions on trade unions. Public industries were sold off to private investors in the belief that the free market would deliver prosperity to all. Individual effort and initiative were prized above social engineering. Indeed, Mrs Thatcher once said: “There is no such thing as “society””.
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