

Topic: Main Ideas, Topic and Topic Sentence

Reading: Shanghai Dreams

Instructions: Choose the best answer for each of the following questions.

1. What is the main idea of paragraph III?
 - a. Rehearsal rooms such as 0093
 - b. Sammy's band is a mixture of the old and the new.
 - c. Sammy's band reflects the westernization of China.
 - d. Bunkers, such as Sammy's, display the change of a society that now mingles with the West.

2. What is the topic of paragraph VI?
 - a. Mysterious China
 - b. The immigration in Shanghai
 - c. The hybrid culture of Shanghai
 - d. The differences of Shanghai and the rest of China

3. What is the topic sentence of paragraph VIII?
 - a. By the 1930's Shanghai was among the ten largest cities in the world.
 - b. But it was like no other place on Earth: a mixed-blood metropolis with a reputation for easy money—and easy morals.
 - c. The British, French, and Americans carved the city into concessions, building gracious homes along tree-lined streets.
 - d. The racecourse dominated the center of town, while the city's nightlife offered everything from dance halls and social clubs to opium dens and brothels.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph IX?
 - a. The favorite food in Shanghai comes from Russia.
 - b. Shanghai has been full of immigrants since its beginning.
 - c. The immigration in the city has transformed it into an advanced place full of foreign influence.
 - d. The immigration in Shanghai has influenced family traditions; although many families remain Confucian.

5. What is the topic of paragraph XI?
 - a. Changes in Shanghai
 - b. The Importance of Shanghai
 - c. Strategies and investments for the rebirth of Shanghai
 - d. Modernization of Shanghai's infrastructure

6. What is the main idea of paragraph XVI?
 - a. Old neighborhoods are disappearing.
 - b. Function of neighborhoods and their disappearance.
 - c. Jin feels comfortable living in her neighborhood.
 - d. Although old neighborhoods are disappearing, the remaining ones, such as Baoxing Cun, maintain the communal feeling that characterized the city.

7. What is the topic of paragraph XIX?
 - a. Demolition of lilongs
 - b. Opposition against the demolition of lilongs
 - c. The government has neglected the lilongs

- d. Controversy regarding the protected historic architecture
8. What is the topic sentence of paragraph XXIII?
- a. New construction and suburban migration have eased Shanghai's congestion, more than tripling the living space per capita in 30 years.
 - b. Yet the transition is tearing the fabric of Shanghainese culture.
 - c. Neighbors in suburbia rarely know each other well, despite community-building efforts such as sports leagues and children's playgrounds.
 - d. At this stage the strongest bond among new suburbanites may be their status as property owners—a link that brought residents together last year to fight the proposed extension of a high-speed railway.
9. What is the topic sentence of paragraph XXIV?
- a. One casualty of urban flight may be Shanghai's local dialect.
 - b. Rich and guttural, the language has been losing ground since 1950s, when Beijing launched its campaign to unify the country with standardized Mandarin.
 - c. The crowded lilong served to sustain the dialect, in the suburbs, families often retreat to their private spaces, blocked off from each other.
 - d. Even so, many proud Shanghai's citizens use the language as a secret code to signal what they belong to the in crowd—and often to ensure fair deals in local shops.
10. What is the main idea of paragraph XVII?
- a. The immigrants in Shanghai should have benefits.
 - b. The immigrants, legal, illegal and outlanders, are the key for the development of the city.
 - c. Although the immigrants greatly contribute to the development of the city, a third of the population does not have papers or benefits.
 - d. The immigrants without legal papers constitute a big part of the Shanghai's population, and they contribute to the development of the city.
11. What is the topic of paragraph XXVIII?
- a. Differences in immigration patterns now and before
 - b. Nowadays, immigrants are not interested in learning the Shanghai's culture.
 - c. Chen is not planning to stay permanently in Shanghai.
 - d. Reasons for immigration
12. What is the main idea of paragraph XXIX?
- a. Immigration workers will come back when there's available work.
 - b. Chen will come back once he knows, there is available work.
 - c. The city is impregnated with the immigration labor.
 - d. The city depends on the immigrants.
13. What is the topic of paragraph XXX?
- a. Changes in the city
 - b. The city infrastructure has changed somehow.
 - c. Apartment buildings
 - d. Expo 2010
14. What is the main idea of paragraph XXXI?
- a. Shanghainese style is unique.
 - b. Shanghai is not any longer attached to ancient history and tradition.

- c. Shanghai is unstoppable because people are not afraid of trying new foreign things.
- d. The obsession of Shanghai with the new can be seen not only in the Expo 2010, but also in its youngster's behavior.

15. What is the topic sentence of paragraph XXXII?

- a. When Black Luna shot some promotional photos recently, the rockers put on flouncy cocktail dresses, with Sammy wearing a 1930's-style choker.
- b. We wanted to capture the glamour of Shanghai.
- c. It was a hip Shanghainese band plundering history for a cool new motif.
- d. In this city of constant renewal, the beat pounds so fast that the past can be turned into the future. The old can be made new again

Answer key

- 1. D
- 2. C
- 3. B
- 4. C
- 5. D
- 6. D
- 7. D
- 8. B
- 9. A
- 10. C
- 11. A
- 12. A
- 13. A
- 14. D
- 15. D