

# IVF Summary Topic Sentences

## Summary

### Verbs

acknowledges  
 adds  
 asks  
 clarifies  
 confirms  
 confronts  
 compares  
 critiques  
 demonstrates  
 describes  
 encourages  
 endorses  
 entertains  
 enumerates  
 explains  
 explores  
 features  
 furnishes  
 gives  
 identifies  
 illustrates  
 invites  
 lists  
 names  
 offers  
 praises  
 presents  
 provides  
 proposes  
 recommends  
 shows  
 suggests  
 supports  
 teaches  
 tells  
 traces

### Example 1

Identify the Item.

*The book Painless Public Speaking by Sharon Bower*

Select a Verb.

*offers*

Finish Your Thought.

*a number of practical hints for people who are afraid of speaking in front of a group.*

*The book Painless Public Speaking by Sharon Bower offers a number of practical hints for people who are afraid of speaking in front of a group.*

### Example 2

Identify the Item.

*"Where Did TV Come From?" by Carl Sagan*

Select a Verb.

*demonstrates*

Finish Your Thought.

*the importance of providing funds for scientific research.*

*"Where Did TV Come From?" by Carl Sagan demonstrates the importance of providing funds for scientific research.*

### Example 3

Identify the Item.

*Unit Seven, "Our Environment," in the social studies book*

Select a Verb.

*explains*

Finish Your Thought.

*what can be done to prevent and to repair damage done to our environment.*

*Unit Seven, "Our Environment," in the social studies book explains what can be done to prevent and to repair damage done to our environment.*

### Example 4

Identify the Item.

*Emily Dickinson's poem "I'm Nobody! Who Are You?"*

Select a Verb.

*compares*

Finish Your Thought.

*life in the public eye with life as an ordinary person.*

*Emily Dickinson's poem "I'm Nobody! Who Are You?" compares life in the public eye with life as an ordinary person.*

# Four-Step Summary Paragraph

**Step 1** Write a topic sentence using the three-part topic sentence method (the burrito fold).

Identify the Item.	Select a Verb.	Finish Your Thought.

**Step 2** Copy the sentence to look like a real sentence. Edit to fix spelling and capitalization errors.

**Step 3** Create a fact outline. Make a short outline or list of the facts you will include in the summary.

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**Step 4** Use your fact outline to write the summary paragraph.

## Revision Strategy: Blending Textual Support



Direct quotes from reading passages should be blended into an essay, not listed separately. The blending of quotes and commentary shows a maturity in writing that usually scores higher on essay tests.

### Requirements for Effective Blending

- ✎ Blend text smoothly with the analysis.
- ✎ Blends need to be grammatically correct.
- ✎ Explain the text and include it with the writer's words, revealing why this text helps prove the point.
- ✎ Don't blend too early, without first setting up the aspect of the topic sentence the quotation is supposed to support. Be sure it is clear how this supports the topic sentence or previous statement.
- ✎ Explain the context of the quotation.

There are three basic methods for blending. Ideally, you will use a variety/combination of two or three methods.

### Method One:

**Blend the text as if the words were already a natural part of the sentence**

**Unblended** - Another trait that exemplifies his virtue of loyalty is in a passage that states "he had done nobly in war" (11). This shows not only his physical brawn and strength, but also his loyalty and beliefs toward God by going on the crusade.

**Blended** - Not only has the Knight "done nobly in war" (11), proving his loyalty to both God and country, but also he dispels a myth that all brawny warriors prefer killing to traveling on pilgrimages.

### Method Two:

**Identify the speaker of the dialogue before the quotation.**

**Example** - The king sadly emits, "He was my closest counselor, he was keeper of my thoughts...men of birth and merit all should be as Ashhere was!" (1062).

### Method Three:

**Use a colon. The sentence that precedes the colon explains the writer's point; what follows is his evidence.**

**Example** - By excluding himself from humanity and working with incredible devotion, Frankenstein discovers how to generate life: "I pursued knowledge to her hiding places...[and] I became myself capable of bestowing animation upon lifeless matter" (50).