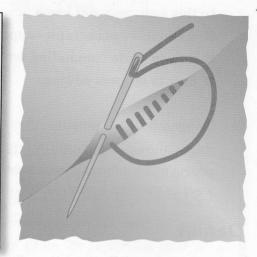
Explanation

An explanation tells what something means or how something works. In this paragraph, underline the topic sentence. Then answer the questions.

"A stitch in time saves nine." My mother, who likes to sew, used this simple saying to teach me the value of working on problems when they are still small.

Originally, the saying referred to sewing—if you have a small hole in a shirt, you can repair it with one stitch.

But if you wait, the hole will get larger, and it will take you nine stitches. This simple sentence reminds me to take care of small problems before they become big problems.



- **a**. What is the writer trying to explain?
- ${f b}$. Is she successful? Do you understand the explanation? yes / no

Example

4 An example is a specific person, place, thing, or event that supports an idea or statement. This paragraph includes an example from the writer's own experience. Underline the topic sentence.

Even when two people get off on the wrong foot, they can become good friends. When I was a university student, I lived in the dormitory for the first year, with a roommate. I arrived a few days before he did. When he first came, he woke me up at 3:00 in the morning making a lot of noise. He was cooking dinner! When I got up in the morning to make myself breakfast, I found his dirty dishes left on the counters and in the sink. I was very annoyed. However, when I met him later that afternoon, he was very nice. He apologized for leaving a mess, and explained that he had had some trouble with his airplane flights and had been traveling for a long time. He was hungry when he arrived and very sleepy. After that, he was always good about washing his dishes. He was in two of my classes, and we often studied together. We're not roommates anymore, but we are still friends.

Why do you think the writer chose to use an example to develop the paragraph in exercise 4 above? Write your reason here, and then compare with a partner.