

Writing

Exercise 1

Examine each of the following paragraphs, paying close attention to the relationships between the topic sentences and the supporting points.

- ① Find the topic sentence.
- ② Find the supporting points. How many are there?
- ③ Is each supporting point adequately developed?
- ④ Is each supporting point logically connected to the assertion?

Nakata A

¹ Nakata was the greatest Japanese soccer player who ever lived. ² First of all, his passing was great. ³ Second, he could co-operate well with his teammates. ⁴ Next, Nakata had a lot of stamina, and his ball control was great, too. ⁵ Additionally, he could shoot the ball very hard. ⁶ Nakata was also very strong, and he sometimes played quite aggressively. ⁷ Finally, Nakata had a great talent for success in professional soccer: field vision. ⁸ He always knew where the other players were. ⁹ Thus, clearly Nakata was the greatest Japanese soccer player who ever lived.

Nakata B

¹ Of all the talented Japanese soccer players who have played abroad, Nakata was clearly the best. ² First of all, Nakata played in a famous league in Italy. ³ His name was known to many Italian people, and he could even speak Italian. ⁴ Furthermore, Nakata was by far the most popular Japanese soccer player who has ever lived. ⁵ He received many emails from his fans every day, and he read them all. ⁶ His relationship with his fans was unique because it was direct and personal, and his attempt to bypass the media and develop a direct tie with his supporters was revolutionary. ⁷ Finally, Nakata valued individuality and self-expression in soccer. ⁸ He rebelled against the traditional ethic of self-sacrifice for the team above all else which has been dominant in Japanese sports, especially baseball. ⁹ Many young players have emulated his emphasis on individuality, and this has had a large impact on the sports world in Japan. ¹⁰ For these reasons, though Nakata is not the only talented Japanese soccer player to