

**5** In the following pairs, circle the number of the best topic sentence. Then explain your choice to a partner. Say why the sentence you didn't choose is weak. Use one or more of these reasons:

- It's too broad.
  - It's too narrow.
  - There is no main idea or opinion.
  - There is more than one main idea.
- a. 1. Gifts can cost a lot of money, and then you also have to wrap them.  
 2. Wrapping a gift in a special way can make your gift seem even more special.  
*There are two main ideas.*.....
- b. 1. Receiving gifts can make some people feel uncomfortable.  
 2. I really like gifts.  
 .....
- c. 1. Parents spend too much money on birthday gifts for babies.  
 2. For my last birthday, I got a gold watch with a leather band from my father.  
 .....
- d. 1. Different countries all over the world have interesting gift-giving customs.  
 2. Several gift-giving customs in China surprised me when I lived there.  
 .....
- e. 1. The best gift I ever gave didn't cost me anything.  
 2. I spent €130 on a gift for my parents.  
 .....
- f. 1. Shopping online makes it easier to find an appropriate gift.  
 2. Buying gifts online can be a good way to save money, but then sometimes you spend more money that way.  
 .....
- g. 1. There are many proverbs in English.  
 2. There are several proverbs in English about gift-giving.  
 .....