Directions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. You are to prepare a speech with the broad topic of “protecting the environment.” Which subtopic would not support this broad topic?
   - Purchasing energy efficient products
   - Using fertilizers to grow greener yards
   - Recycling materials
   - Reducing water usage

2. When you research a topic, it is important to know its relationship to other concepts. All of the following concepts are related to stress. Which phrase represents the narrowest (most specific) topic?
   - Psychological stress
   - Gender differences in stress reactions
   - Strategies for coping with stress
   - Reactions to stress

3. Consider the topic below as a possible topic for a three-page research paper. Indicate whether the statement would be a Good Topic, a Topic Too Broad for this paper, or a Topic Too Narrow for this paper.
   Explain the immediate outcome of the Electoral College vote in the Presidential election in the United States in 2000.
   - Good topic
   - Topic Too Broad
   - Topic Too Narrow

4. Consider the topic below as a possible topic for a three-page research paper. Indicate whether the statement would be a Good Topic, a Topic Too Broad for this paper, or a Topic Too Narrow for this paper.
   Explain how humans’ emotional health impacts their physical health.
   - Good Topic
   - Topic Too Broad
   - Topic Too Narrow
5. Read the original topic and the revised topic. Is the revised topic broader or narrower than the original topic?
Initial Topic: The effect of the travel and tourism industry on pollution in Alaska
Revised Topic: Water pollution in Alaska caused by cruise ships dumping waste
   A. Broader
   B. Narrower

6. Read the original topic and the revised topic. Is the revised topic broader or narrower than the original topic?
Initial Topic: How have recycling programs in the been successful in reducing the amount of waste?
Revised Topic: How do recycling programs compare to landfills in reducing the negative impact of waste materials on the environment?
   A. Broader
   B. Narrower

7. When you research a topic, it is important to know its relationship to other concepts. Which word or phrase represents the broadest (most general) subject under which all of the other topics would fit?
   A. Studying
   B. Note taking
   C. Succeeding in academics
   D. Rewriting your notes

8. When you research a topic, it is important to know its relationship to other concepts. Which word or phrase represents the broadest (most general) subject under which all of the other topics would fit?
   A. Stress
   B. Exercise
   C. Sugary drinks
   D. Children’s health

9. In your science class you have been assigned a “fire” as your topic in the natural disaster unit. Which of the following would be the best individuals to help you focus your topic?
   A. City mayor, your school or public librarian, your science teacher
   B. Your school or public librarian, your science teacher, firefighter
   C. Police officer, firefighter, city mayor
   D. City mayor, your school or public librarian, firefighter
10. When students are assigned a topic, it is often quite broad. Thus, it is a student’s responsibility to focus the topic into a more manageable one. Which of these follows the pattern of a broad topic (on the far left) reduced to a narrower topic (on the far right)?

A. Sleep — dreams — nightmares  
B. Nectar — bees — honey  
C. Drones — robots — aerial surveillance  
D. Amelia Earhart — pilot — aviation
Develop Topic

Answer Key

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. B
10. A