

Order Topics From Broadest to Narrowest

A **topic** is the subject or focus of a piece of writing. The **scope** of a topic is the range of information the topic covers. A topic with a **broader** scope is more general and covers a wide variety of information. A topic with a **narrower** scope is more specific and covers a more limited range of ideas. Consider these topics:

- types of pollution
- air pollution
- impacts of wildfires on air pollution

Types of pollution has the broadest scope. It's the most general.

Air pollution has a narrower scope. It focuses on one type of pollution.

Impacts of wildfires on air pollution has the narrowest scope. Wildfires are a specific cause of air pollution.

Directions: Read each set of topics, and order them from broadest to narrowest. Write a 1 (broadest), 2, or 3 (narrowest) on the line next to each topic.

- 1.**
- ____ plays of the 16th and 17th centuries
- ____ plays by William Shakespeare
- ____ *Romeo and Juliet*

- 2.**
- ____ school lunches
- ____ nutritional value of public school lunches in the U.S.
- ____ public school lunches in the U.S.

- 3.**
- ____ Anne's relationships with peers
- ____ *Anne of Green Gables* characters
- ____ the loyal friendship between Anne and Diana

- 4.**
- ____ carnivorous mammals in Sub-Saharan Africa
- ____ lions' methods of hunting prey
- ____ the African wildlife food web

- 5.**
- ____ physics of roller coasters
- ____ the transfer of potential and kinetic energy throughout a roller coaster ride
- ____ theme parks and their connection to science

- 6.**
- ____ Martin Luther King, Jr.'s meeting with Vice President Nixon
- ____ Martin Luther King, Jr.
- ____ civil rights movement activists