



THINKING ALOUD

A new device may soon help people who can't move or speak. It's only the size of a pen point. But it works like a computer keyboard or mouse. The device allows people to control computers with the power of thought.

The device was tested on a man who had suffered from a massive stroke. Doctors implanted the new device into the man's brain. It made his brain signals stronger and sent the signals to a computer through a coil on top of his head.

With brain power, the man was able to move the blinking cursor from icon to icon. He could stop the cursor on icons, like "Hello" or "I'm thirsty." And the computer would say those words.

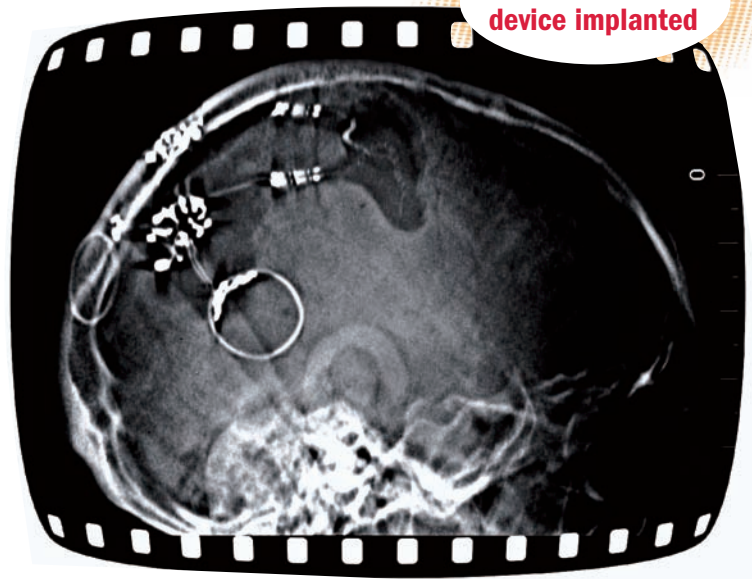
Dr. Phillip Kennedy developed the device. Without it, patients who are unable to speak sometimes blink their eyes to be understood, but that can be very difficult for them.

Over one million people suffer in silence each year because of injuries or illnesses that leave them without any way to communicate. This new implant can give these people a hand and a voice.

Writer's Tip

- The *topic sentence* should clearly state what your article is going to be about.
- Include *supporting details* that give more information about the topic.

x-ray of head with device implanted



Topic Sentence/Supporting Details

- ▶ Reread the passage. Find and underline the topic sentence. Then find the supporting details and fill in the lines below.

Topic Sentence: _____

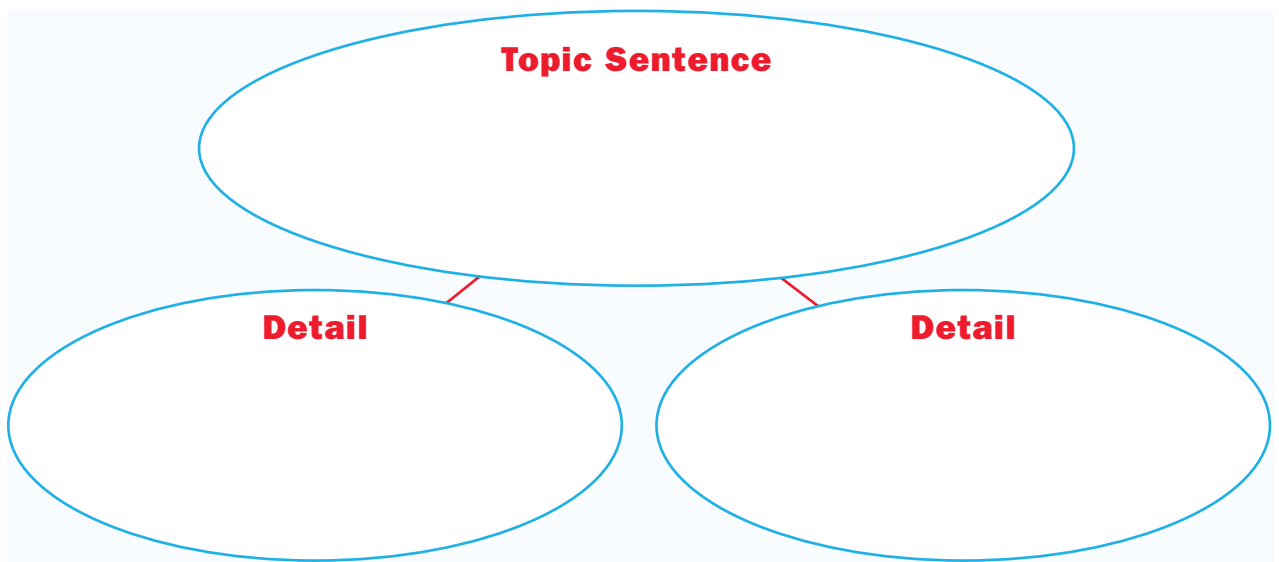
Supporting Detail: It works like a computer keyboard or mouse.

Supporting Detail: _____

Supporting Detail: _____

Your Turn

- ▶ Think about the subject you have chosen. What will be the topic sentence of your article? What details will you include to support the topic sentence?



- ▶ Use your graphic organizer to help you write an informative article. Be sure to include a topic sentence and supporting details.