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It is conjectured that every hyperbolic 3-manifold with torus boundary components has a decomposition into positive volume ideal hyperbolic tetrahedra (a “geometric” triangulation of the manifold). Under a mild homology assumption on the manifold we construct topological ideal triangulations which admit a strict angle structure, which is a necessary condition for the triangulation to be geometric. In particular, every knot or link complement in the 3-sphere has such a triangulation. (Received September 07, 2011)