



Main Idea and Summarizing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: Grade 4

Part A: Fix the Sentence

Each sentence has an error. Rewrite it correctly on the line.

1. Fix the sentence: The main idea of a paragraph about thunderstorms is that lightning is bright.

Rewrite: _____

2. Fix the sentence:

A summary should include your own opinion about whether the passage was interesting.

Rewrite: _____

3. Fix the sentence: An article about desert animals has the main idea that camels have long eyelashes.

Rewrite: _____

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. The _____ of a passage is usually what every paragraph connects back to.
2. To paraphrase means to put someone else's idea into your own _____.
3. A heading at the top of a section gives you a _____ about the main idea.
4. A conclusion sentence often _____ the main idea at the end of a paragraph.

Part C: Short Answer

Answer each question in one or two complete sentences.

1. Why is paraphrasing important when you write a summary?

2. How can headings and subheadings help you find the main idea of a long article?

Part A: Fix the Sentence

Each sentence has an error. Rewrite it correctly on the line.

1. Fix the sentence: The main idea of a paragraph about thunderstorms is that lightning is bright.

Rewrite: **The main idea of a paragraph about thunderstorms is that thunderstorms are powerful weather events with lightning, thunder, and heavy rain.**

2. Fix the sentence:

A summary should include your own opinion about whether the passage was interesting.

Rewrite: **A summary should include only the key facts and ideas from the passage, not your personal opinion.**

3. Fix the sentence: An article about desert animals has the main idea that camels have long eyelashes.

Rewrite: **An article about desert animals has the main idea that desert animals have special features that help them survive in hot, dry conditions.**

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. The **topic** of a passage is usually what every paragraph connects back to.
2. To paraphrase means to put someone else's idea into your own **words**.
3. A heading at the top of a section gives you a **clue** about the main idea.
4. A conclusion sentence often **restates** the main idea at the end of a paragraph.

Part C: Short Answer

Answer each question in one or two complete sentences.

1. Why is paraphrasing important when you write a summary?

Paraphrasing is important because it shows you understand the text and are not just copying the author's exact words.

2. How can headings and subheadings help you find the main idea of a long article?
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