



Main Idea and Summarizing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: Grade 4

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer for each question.

1. Honeybees do a waggle dance to tell other bees where flowers are. The dance shows direction and distance. What is the main idea?

- A) Bees like to dance.
- B) Flowers grow in many places.
- C) Honeybees communicate the location of food through dance.
- D) Bees travel long distances every day.

2. A student writes this summary: "The article was about stuff that happened a long time ago." What is wrong with this summary?

- A) It is too specific.
- B) It is too vague and does not name the topic or key details.
- C) It includes too many facts.
- D) It copies directly from the article.

3. A passage states that ancient Egyptians built pyramids as tombs for pharaohs, used thousands of workers, and moved huge stone blocks. Which is the best main idea?

- A) Pyramids are made of stone.
- B) Ancient Egyptians built massive pyramids to honor their rulers.
- C) Workers carried heavy things.
- D) Egypt is in Africa.

4. Which strategy helps you find the main idea of a long passage?

- A) Read only the last paragraph.
- B) Look at the pictures and guess.
- C) Read headings and the first sentence of each paragraph.
- D) Count the number of paragraphs.

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the correct answer on each line.

1. A main idea that is not stated directly is called an _____ main idea.
2. Summarizing requires you to _____ the most important information in fewer words.
3. Key supporting details provide evidence, examples, or _____ for the main idea.
4. When the main idea is not in one sentence, you must _____ it from all the details.
5. A summary should never include your personal _____ about the topic.

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Part B: Fill in the Blank

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3. Key supporting details provide evidence, examples, or reasons for the main idea.
4. When the main idea is not in one sentence, you must infer it from all the details.
5. A summary should never include your personal opinions about the topic.