Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Read each paragraph and then select the main idea from the set of answer choices.

What is the main idea? The main idea is the most important thought about the paragraph. It is the overall point of the story. The main idea is the big picture — not the details. It is what the story is all about!

1. Caleb pulled on his tall black socks and then slid on his shin guards. He put on his cleats and grabbed his soccer ball on the way out the door. Caleb thought about the tips his coach had given him during the last practice. Caleb was ready for the big soccer game!

What is the main idea?

1. Caleb puts on socks
2. Caleb is ready for the soccer game
3. Caleb has a new soccer ball
4. Corinne was busy preparing for her wedding. She made all of her invitations by hand. She bought a beautiful wedding dress. She tasted different kinds of cake, and decided she wanted a cheesecake. Corinne spent many hours each day planning. She wanted her wedding to be perfect.

What is the main idea?

1. Corinne wanted a cheesecake
2. Corinne made her invitations
3. Corinne prepared for her wedding
4. Carmen waited in line with her friends in the cafeteria. Everyone got a lunch tray. Carmen put a slice of pizza, an apple, and a carton of milk on her tray. She paid the cashier and sat down at a table. Carmen and her friends talked as they ate lunch together. Carmen enjoyed eating and spending time with her friends.

What is the main idea?

1. Carmen had lunch with her friends
2. Carmen drank milk with her lunch

C Carmen paid the cashier for her food

1. Matt took a road trip to Arizona. It took him a long time to get there. He stopped along the way to take pictures of interesting things. Matt took pictures of the mountains and the sunset. Matt also stopped along the way to rest, eat, and refuel his car. Matt had a nice time on his trip. What is the main idea?
2. Matt took a road trip
3. Matt took photos of the sunset
4. Matt refueled his car
5. Lyndsey went shopping for a new car. The salesman at the car dealership was very friendly. He showed Lyndsey many different cars. He talked to her and answered her questions. Later that week, Lyndsey and the salesman went out to dinner. They became good friends. "I'm so glad we met!" Lyndsey said to the salesman.

What is the main idea?

1. Lyndsey liked her new car
2. Lyndsey met a friendly salesman
3. Lyndsey looked at many cars
4. Bobby invited his friends over to play last Saturday. They played Candy Land. They laughed and told jokes. They painted silly pictures with Bobby's new paint set. When they were done playing, Bobby's friends went home.

What is the main idea?

1. Bobby had fun with his friends
2. Bobby's friends went home
3. Bobby told the funniest joke
4. Donald walked into his bedroom. It was a mess! Donald put his toys in the toy box. He put his clothes in the closet. He put his books on the bookshelf. Next, he made his bed. Then his room was nice and clean!

What is the main idea?

1. Donald put toys in the toy box
2. Donald cleaned his room
3. Donald walked into his bedroom
4. Missy checked out a new book from the library. It was a very interesting mystery book. When she got home, she started reading the book. She read all day long! Finally, she finished the book that evening. "That was the best book ever!" Missy said.

What is the main idea?

1. Missy went to the library
2. Mystery books are the best
3. Missy read a book
4. Laura babysat her nephews last weekend. It was quite a challenge! Her nephews tossed a football in the house and broke a vase. They ran up and down the stairs and made lots of noise. They colored on the wall with crayons. Laura spent lots of time cleaning up and was exhausted when the weekend was over.

What is the main idea?

A Laura's nephews broke a vase

B Laura had a difficult weekend babysitting

C Laura's nephews make lots of noise

1. Mrs. Gonzalez was working in her yard. She raked the leaves into piles. She pulled the weeds in the flower bed. She mowed the grass and trimmed the bushes. Mrs. Gonzalez enjoyed spending time working outside.

What is the main idea?

A Mrs. Gonzalez raked leaves

B There were weeds in the garden bed

C Mrs. Gonzalez did yardwork

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.