

Identifying Main Ideas in Text

1. Complete the previewing routine.
 - a. Introduce the important academic and content-specific vocabulary words.
 - b. Have students record title/topic and the page numbers for the chapter or section.
 - c. State the primary focus of the chapter or section.
 - d. Have students look at the title, page numbers, headings, terms, graphs, tables, and pictures.
2. Ask students to write the main ideas with the Get the Gist routine.
 - a. Name the “who” or “what.”
 - b. Tell the most important information.
 - c. Say it in 10 words or less.
3. Periodically critique students’ main idea statements.
4. Ask students to record the following in the Notes section:
 - a. Details, facts, examples
 - b. Words in bold or italics
 - c. Enumerated/bulleted lists