YOURpath TABE Worksheet
Reading - Level E
Skill: Main Idea

Name: _____ Date: _____

What You Need to Know

The main idea is what the passage is mostly about. It is the big point the author wants you to understand.

Guided Example

Passage:
Marcus keeps a small garden on his balcony. He waters the plants each morning and enjoys watching them grow.

Question: What is the main idea?
A. Marcus keeps a garden and takes care of his plants
B. Marcus buys vegetables at the store
C. Marcus is moving to a new apartment
D. Marcus only waters his plants on weekends

Correct Answer: A

Practice

Directions: Read each passage. Choose the answer that best states the main idea.

Passage 1
Tara started walking during her lunch break to get more exercise. She enjoys the fresh air and feels more energized for the rest of the day.

What is the main idea?
A. Tara walks during lunch to get more exercise
B. Tara eats lunch at her desk
C. Tara is training for a race
D. Tara prefers to stay indoors

Passage 2
The library added a quiet study room for adults. People can read, complete assignments, or use the computers without distractions.

What is the main idea?
A. The library added a quiet study room for adults
B. Only students can use the library

C. The library is closing early
D. Computers are no longer available

Passage 3
Diego enjoys cooking simple meals at home. He follows easy recipes and likes trying new ingredients on weekends.

What is the main idea?
A. Diego enjoys cooking simple meals at home
B. Diego wants to become a chef
C. Diego only eats at restaurants
D. Diego dislikes trying new foods

Passage 4
The bus company updated its schedule. Buses now arrive more often during the morning and evening to help people get to work on time.

What is the main idea?
A. The bus company updated its schedule
B. The buses are no longer running
C. Only students can ride the bus
D. The company raised ticket prices

Passage 5
A local community group is organizing a neighborhood clean-up. Volunteers will pick up trash, plant flowers, and help make the area look nicer.

What is the main idea?
A. A community group is planning a neighborhood clean-up
B. Only children can volunteer
C. The neighborhood is closing the park
D. The clean-up will last all month

Answer Key
A, A, A, A, A

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