

Name _____

Date _____

Finding the Main Idea

Directions: After reading the paragraph, write a sentence stating the main idea.

You have heard of assassins in the movies, but have you ever heard of an assassin bug? As their name indicates, assassin bugs are bugs that kill other bugs. These sneaky creatures lie in wait for their next victim. When an unfortunate bug crosses their path, the assassin bug stabs the poor victim with its beak and injects a toxin. This toxin dissolves the tissues inside of the other bug. When the inside of the bug is dissolved, the assassin bug sucks out the dissolved insides of the other bugs. Although we think of the spider as sitting in their web waiting to kill their prey, the spider is one of the favorite meals of the assassin bug. But even the assassin bug isn't safe. They are known to kill and eat each other. Some examples of assassin bugs are the wheel bug, conenose, and one known as the big bedbug.

The main idea of this paragraph is: _____

The Statue of Liberty is one of the most popular tourist sites in New York City. This lovely lady was a birthday gift to our nation by France in 1886. It was built by Auguste Bartholdi, a French sculptor, and took nine years to complete. It is made from copper, resulting in its green color because of the oxidation from evaporating seawater. Without the pedestal, the statue itself is as tall as a 15 story building. She has become the symbol of freedom and democracy. This was very true for the immigrants that came to the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Statue of Liberty was the first thing they saw from the ships as they arrived. It was designated a National Monument in 1924. Today, the Statue of Liberty is a favorite tourist site for families. To reach the crown, which has seven spikes representing the seven oceans or seven continents, you must climb 354 stairs or ride an elevator. Once you arrive in the crown, there are 25 windows from which you can view the surrounding scenery. If you are ever in New York City, it is a history lesson waiting for you to explore.

The main idea of this paragraph is: _____

Although you don't start earning credits for graduation until high school, what you learn in grades 1-8 can affect your chances of successfully earning those credits. Basic math, reading, and grammar skills are learned in elementary and middle school. So if you don't learn the basic skills in these subjects, you will most likely not be successful in high school math classes such as Algebra and Geometry or in English I-IV. You will even have problems passing classes such as Chemistry because you won't have the math skills needed. So, as you can see, what you learn and the grades you make in elementary and middle school are just as important to your future as high school.

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You have heard of assassins in the movies, but have you ever heard of an assassin bug? As their name indicates, assassin bugs are bugs that kill other bugs. These sneaky creatures lie in wait for their next victim. When an unfortunate bug crosses their path, the assassin bug stabs the poor victim with its beak and injects a toxin. This toxin dissolves the tissues inside of the other bug. When the inside of the bug is dissolved, the assassin bug sucks out the dissolved insides of the other bugs. Although we think of the spider as sitting in their web waiting to kill their prey, the spider is one of the favorite meals of the assassin bug. But even the assassin bug isn't safe. They are known to kill and eat each other. Some examples of assassin bugs are the wheel bug, conenose, and one known as the big bedbug. .

The main idea of this paragraph is: **The assassin bug is a bug that kills and eats other bugs.**

The Statue of Liberty is one of the most popular tourist sites in New York City. This lovely lady was a birthday gift to our nation by France in 1886. It was built by Auguste Bartholdi, a French sculptor, and took nine years to complete. It is made from copper, resulting in its green color because of the oxidation from evaporating seawater. Without the pedestal, the statue itself is as tall as a 15 story building. She has become the symbol of freedom and democracy. This was very true for the immigrants that came to the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Statue of Liberty was the first thing they saw from the ships as they arrived. It was designated a National Monument in 1924. Today, the Statue of Liberty is a favorite tourist site for families. To reach the crown, which has seven spikes representing the seven oceans or seven continents, you must climb 354 stairs or ride an elevator. Once you arrive in the crown, there are 25 windows from which you can view the surrounding scenery. If you are ever in New York City, it is a history lesson waiting for you to explore.

The main idea of this paragraph is: **The Statue of Liberty is a famous and interesting tourist site in New York City.**

Although you don't start earning credits for graduation until high school, what you learn in grades 1-8 can affect your chances of successfully earning those credits. Basic math, reading, and grammar skills are learned in elementary and middle school. So if you don't learn the basic skills in these subjects, you will most likely not be successful in high school math classes such as Algebra and Geometry or in English I-IV. You will even have problems passing classes such as Chemistry because you won't have the math skills needed. So, as you can see, what you learn and the grades you make in elementary and middle school are just as important to your future as high school.

The main idea of this paragraph is: **Basic skills learned in elementary and middle school are needed to be successful in high school.**

