



Name: _____

Date: _____

Finding the Main Idea

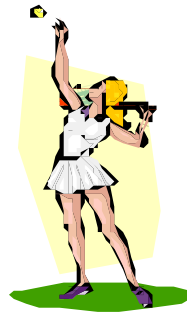
Rule: The **Main Idea** of a story is what the writer wants you to know. Usually, the **Main Idea** is in the first or last sentence of a paragraph.

Directions: Read each paragraph and decide what the **main idea** is in each.

1. Carol loves to play tennis. Her favorite shot is the volley because she is very good at it. Her forehand is strong, but her backhand is weak. Carol is a very smart player and puts the ball where you aren't. Everyone likes playing with her, because she is so good.

What is the main idea of this paragraph?

- a. Carol is a good thinker.
- b. Carol has a good forehand.
- c. Carol likes to play tennis.
- d. Carol loves to play games.



2. Riding fast in a boat is fun. My brother and I always tube behind the boat. My dad likes to water ski and jump over the wakes. Mom always makes sure we have on sunscreen and have lots of snacks to eat and drink. Boating is so much fun!

What is the main idea of this paragraph?

- a. Riding in a boat is fun.
- b. Tubing is going behind the boat.
- c. You should eat and drink when you boat.
- d. Boating is a lot of fun.





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Answer Key Finding the Main Idea

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