

Steel is a very important metal which is used for many things. In the United States, the automobile industry uses the most steel. Steel is used in putting up buildings. Cans and containers are made from steel. Steel is used to make farm and factory machines.

The Main Idea Is:

- a) The auto industry is the most important.
- b) Steel is used for many purposes.
- c) The United States produces the most steel in the world.

Jean finally had the money for something she had wanted to buy for a long time. Today after school, Jean would buy her own skateboard. She was pretty good at using skateboards, because she used those of friends to practice. She was looking forward to having her own to use whenever she wanted.

The Main Idea Is:

- a) Jean will get a skateboard.
- b) Jean is an expert at skateboarding.
- c) Jean borrows a skateboard.

There are about 2,000 kinds of bats. They come in many sizes. Bats are rather strange looking animals. They are soft and furry with large ears. Bats cannot run or walk. They usually eat insects. Bats are the only mammals that fly.

The Main Idea Is:

- a) Bats are unusual mammals.
- b) Bats move by running and flying.
- c) Bats look like many other animals.

Main Idea Reading Comprehension

Practice Cards provide an easy way to help students develop a critical reading skill. Each card in this set has been leveled for a 3.5–5.0 reading level.

Main Idea cards consist of a leveled reading passage and a multiple choice question that asks students to choose the main idea of the passage.

You may want to introduce the set of cards to the students by making an overhead transparency of a few cards to work through as a class. Once students become familiar with the cards, they can use them independently as take-home practice, in a reading center, or as reading and responding practice in small groups. Each card features the answer on the reverse side for easy self-checking.

Continual practice with Main Idea cards reinforces a reading comprehension skill essential for all areas of study.