

# THE CENTRAL IDEA OF THE TEXT

**How do I determine the central idea of a text?**

**Topic + the main point the text makes about the topic = Central Idea**

**Here are questions to help check the Central Idea:**

- A. Does the central idea make a point about the topic?
- B. Does the central idea cover the whole selection and not just one detail or event? C. Are there at least three strong supporting details to support this central idea? D. Is the central idea too specific so it doesn't allow the reader to apply the central idea to his/her life? E. What point do the key details repeat and add up to?
- F. Is the central idea something useful that can help you to think or act in the world?

**1. In Chapter , the central idea was**

**2. Identify the **writing strategy** (literary element or literary technique) that the author used to develop the above central idea. Examples include:**  
characterization, conflict, metaphor, simile, irony, language use, setting, structure, symbolism, tone, etc.

3. Identify **two examples** of the above writing strategy that helped the author develop the above central idea. (Make sure you put “” around the quotes.)
- a.
  - b.
4. Explain **how** each of those specific examples of the writing strategy **help prove** the central idea.
- a.
  - b.