

Name _____ Date _____ List #: ____ - ____

The main idea tells what a story or paragraph is mostly about.

Dear Kelly,

We are having a great time in Washington, D.C. Today we visited two monuments.

I am sure you have seen pictures of the famous Washington Monument. It is a huge obelisk, over 55 feet in height and covered in white marble. The monument weighs over 90,000 tons! We took an elevator to the top of the monument and had a great view of the whole city of Washington. In the lobby at the base of the obelisk is a large statue of our first president, George Washington. This spectacular monument honors him.



Next, we visited a very different monument, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This monument is two walls of polished black granite arranged in a V-shape. On the walls are carved the names of more than 58,000 men and women who were killed or missing in the Vietnam War. Visitors walk very quietly and respectfully along the granite walls. All along the base of the monument are flowers, flags, and small memorials left by friends and family members. There is so much more we have to see here in Washington, D.C. I'll tell you all about our trip when I get home.

See you soon,

Megan

____ 1. Paragraph 2:

- a. The Washington Monument honors our nation's first president.
- b. The Washington Monument must have taken a long time to build.
- c. The Washington Monument is a massive, impressive structure.

____ 2. Paragraph 3:

- a. Visitors to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial often leave gifts along the granite walls.
- b. A visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a very moving experience.
- c. The Vietnam Memorial consists of two granite walls arranged in a V-shape.

____ 3. What is the main idea Megan makes about her visit to these two monuments?

- a. The two visits to the monuments were very different experiences for her.
- b. Visiting monuments helps her learn about our nation's history.
- c. She is impressed by the different ways monuments are constructed.