



Finding the Main Idea



Instructions. Read carefully the following passage and answer the exercise below.

How do migrating animals find their destination? They navigate in a variety of ways. Fish use their sense of smell to recognize their migration paths and are guided by changing water temperatures. Birds use the position of the sun to orient themselves. Some birds have magnetic particles in their ear mechanisms that act as a compass. Mammals rely on their memory. Some elephant trails have been used for hundreds of years.

Source: Adapted from The Complete Book of Questions and Answers, Columbus, OH: American Education Publishing, 2002, p.120.

1. What's the topic of this paragraph?

- A) destinations.
- B) fishes' sense of smell.
- C) how birds orient themselves.
- D) migrating animals

2. What's the main idea of the text?

- A) How do migrating animals find their way?
- B) Migrating animals navigate in a variety of ways.
- C) Mammals rely on their memory.
- D) Fish and birds have special methods for finding their way.

Is it an implied or a stated main idea? _____

