

MAIN IDEA

What is Main Idea?

The **main idea** of a text is what the text is written about. The main idea is the subject or main topic of the text.

Example:

Let's say the main idea of a paragraph is that a butterfly has an unusual life cycle. The paragraph would then include specific details about the life cycle of the butterfly which support the main idea.

What is Plot?

Plot is the series of events that happen in a story. Plot is one of the three main elements of a story (the other two being setting and characters).

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PREVIEW

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story.

1. **Exposition** – the introduction of characters and setting
2. **Conflict** – a problem is introduced for a character or characters
3. **Rising Action** – the conflict or problem within a story becomes more intense for the characters as the story unfolds
4. **Climax** – when something happens in the story to create a turning point for the characters in trouble--the point at which the outcome of the conflict can be predicted
5. **Resolution** - the ending of the story; this is where all the loose ends are tied up

Try This!

True or false?

- _____ The climax is the conclusion of the story.
- _____ The main idea of the story tells the reader where the story is taking place.
- _____ The problem of a story is also called the conflict.
- _____ The exposition is usually at the end of a story.
- _____ Events of a story are told through the plot.



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