**Chapter 2: Main Ideas**

------------------------------Information found in pages 55-57, 63, 69-74------------------------------

The *main idea*, or point, is the most important key to good comprehension.

*Supporting details* is specific evidence such as examples, causes, reasons, or facts.

A section has a *central poin*t (also referred to the central idea or thesis) and is found in the same way as the main idea.

There are three strategies in finding the main idea.

1. Look for general versus specific ideas.
2. Use the topic to lead you to the main idea.
3. Use key words to lead you to the main idea.

A group called the “list words” will tell you a list of items will follow which will more likely be the main idea.

* three advantages of
* various reasons for
* several causes of
* five steps
* a number of effects
* some factors in
* several kinds (or ways) of
* among the results
* a series of

There are four locations where the main idea can be found.

Beginning Middle End Beginning and End

Main Idea Introductory Detail Introductory Detail Supporting Detail Main Idea

Supporting Detail Or Main Idea Introductory Detail Supporting Detail Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail Supporting Detail Main Idea Supporting Detail Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail Supporting Detail Supporting Detail Supporting Detail Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail Supporting Detail Supporting Detail Main Idea Main Idea