

Name _____

Date _____

Analyze the Development of Main Ideas

The **main idea** is what a section of a text is mostly about. A **text can have multiple main ideas**, especially when it is organized into different sections or paragraphs. Authors also list supporting details to illustrate the main idea.

Read the passage and choose the correct answer.

The Importance of Trees

Trees and the Environment

Trees help the environment in many ways. They clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. Trees also provide habitats for many animals, such as birds and squirrels.

Trees and People

Trees are important to people, too. They provide wood for building houses and making furniture. Trees also give us fruits, like apples and oranges, and shade on hot days.

Main Idea 1

Detail 1

Detail 2

Main Idea 2

Detail 1

Detail 2

Name _____

Date _____

Analyze the Development of Main Ideas – Answer Key

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Main Idea 1 Trees help the environment in many ways.

Detail 1 They clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen.

Detail 2 Trees provide habitats for many animals, such as birds and squirrels.

Main Idea 2 Trees are important to people, too.

Detail 1 They provide wood for building houses and making furniture.

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