

Name _____

Finding the main idea

Try An Armchair Adventure!



Have you ever dreamed of visiting places far away or from long ago? Here's your chance to take an "armchair adventure." On your trip, you'll learn about paragraphs. Read the paragraph below. Notice how the sentences tell about one idea. Then answer the questions that follow.

In England, a popular place to visit is the Tower of London. It is really a group of tall buildings in east London. A shallow moat and a high stone wall surround the buildings. They include an old fort, a dark prison, and a former royal home. Many people were held in the tower's prison cells. One of its most famous "guests" was Lady Jane Grey, who really "lost her head" for her crimes! Today the Tower of London is a museum. Special guards watch over the crowns, scepters, and other treasures that belong to the royal family.



1. The main idea of the paragraph ties the sentences together. What do you think is the main idea of the above paragraph?

2. Detail sentences add information about the main idea. What information did you learn about the Tower of London?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. A title of a paragraph can give a clue to its main idea. It can also "grab" the reader's attention. Write a good title for the paragraph.

Armchair Assignment: Now it's your turn. Use the lines below, and the back of this sheet if necessary, to write a paragraph. Add at least five details to tell about the main idea.

I'll never forget my visit to _____

Bonus Box: Read your paragraph to the class, but omit the name of the place that you've written about. See if your classmates can guess the place from the details that you write.