

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Main Idea

Read each passage and ask yourself, "What is the author doing in this paragraph?" Write your answer in the summary box and then think of an appropriate title for the passage based on the main idea of the passage.

When food is freeze-dried, every bit of water is removed from it. Without a water content, and the microorganisms that go along with it, food is less likely to spoil, even if it remains at room temperature for many years. Freeze drying also allows the food being preserved to keep its original texture, flavor, and smell, which gives it an advantage over other food preservation methods.

Summarize this paragraph in one sentence. Be specific and clearly explain the main idea.

One problem that the U.S. faced when rebelling against the British was currency. While under British control, colonists mainly used British paper money and foreign coins. But after forming a new nation, the Americans needed their own currency. They created Continental currency. Congress issued over 240 million Continental Dollars during the Revolution. Unfortunately, these dollars soon dropped in value. This gave rise to the popular expression, "not worth a Continental." By the end of 1778, Continentals were worth 1/5th of their face value. By 1780, they were worth 1/40th. In the 1790s, the U.S. bought back Continentals for 1% of their printed value. One reason for this decline was economic warfare. During the war the British hired artists to counterfeit Continental Dollars. Then they funneled large amounts of these counterfeit notes into the American economy. The value of the Continental Dollar crashed. When people complain about today's inflation rates, I tell them about Continentals.

Summarize this paragraph in one sentence. Be specific and clearly explain the main idea.