Niera	Data
Name:	Date:

Main Idea

Remember that <u>main idea</u> is the overall topic of the passage that you are reading. It is what the passage is <u>mainly</u> about. The <u>main idea</u> is often near the beginning of the passage. Then, the writer supports the <u>main idea</u> by giving facts and details that give you more information.

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Ever wonder why many school holidays happen on Mondays? In the United States, school holidays often fall at the same time as other holidays. The first holiday of the school year is usually Labor Day, the first Monday in September. Some schools do not even start back until after the Labor Day holiday. Then, many schools have a teacher work day or long weekend near Columbus Day, which is the second Monday in October. In January, we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, and most schools have a holiday on the third Monday of the month. Schools also usually have a holiday or a teacher workday at the same time as President's Day, which is the third Monday of February. Finally, if your school is still in session, you will probably have a holiday on Memorial Day, which is the last Monday in May.

- 1. Which sentence best states the **main idea** of the paragraph?
 - a. Most schools have a holiday on the third Monday of the month.
 - b. School holidays often fall at the same time as other holidays.
 - c. Ever wonder why many school holidays happen on Mondays?
- 2. Which sentence is a supporting detail for the main idea of the paragraph?
 - a. Some schools do not even start back until after the Labor Day Holiday.
 - b. Ever wonder why many school holidays happen on Mondays?
 - c. The first holiday of the school year is usually Labor Day, the first Monday in September.
- 3. Which of the following could the author have added to the paragraph to support his main idea?
 - a. Many schools are also closed on Good Friday.
 - b. We always celebrate MLK's birthday on a Monday, no matter what day of the week it actually is.
 - c. Thanksgiving is on a Thursday, and some schools give a whole week off at Thanksgiving.

Name:	Date:
Name:	Date:

Main Idea

Remember that <u>main idea</u> is the overall topic of the passage that you are reading. It is what the passage is <u>mainly</u> about. The <u>main idea</u> is often near the beginning of the passage. Then, the writer supports the <u>main idea</u> by giving facts and details that give you more information.

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Ever wonder why many school holidays happen on Mondays? In the United States, school holidays often fall at the same time as other holidays. The first holiday of the school year is usually Labor Day, the first Monday in September. Some schools do not even start back until after the Labor Day holiday. Then, many schools have a teacher work day or long weekend near Columbus Day, which is the second Monday in October. In January, we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, and most schools have a holiday on the third Monday of the month. Schools also usually have a holiday or a teacher workday at the same time as President's Day, which is the third Monday of February. Finally, if your school is still in session, you will probably have a holiday on Memorial Day, which is the last Monday in May.

- 1. Which sentence best states the **main idea** of the paragraph?
 - a. Most schools have a holiday on the third Monday of the month.
 - b. School holidays often fall at the same time as other holidays.
 - c. Ever wonder why many school holidays happen on Mondays?
- 2. Which sentence is a supporting detail for the main idea of the paragraph?
 - a. Some schools do not even start back until after the Labor Day Holiday.
 - b. Ever wonder why many school holidays happen on Mondays?
 - c. The first holiday of the school year is usually Labor Day, the first Monday in September.
- 3. Which of the following could the author have added to the paragraph to support his main idea?
 - a. Many schools are also closed on Good Friday.
 - b. We always celebrate MLK's birthday on a Monday, no matter what day of the week it actually is.
 - c. Thanksgiving is on a Thursday, and some schools give a whole week off at Thanksgiving.