When a reader summarises a text, they evaluate the information and decide what is important and what isn’t. Summarising helps a reader gain a more concise understanding of the text.

Main ideas are often found in topic sentences. These are usually the first sentence of a paragraph. The concluding sentences often contains the main idea.

1. Read the text below. Think: What is the main idea? What are the supporting details?

__________________________

(title)

The Australian Kelpie is a very special breed of dog. Kelpies have strong limbs and a trim build. Well-developed muscle combined with their athletic build means the Kelpie can move at very high speeds. Kelpies also move with great agility and balance. They skilfully jump on top of herds of sheep. This is known as ‘sheep backing’ and is useful for quickly getting from one side of the herd to the other and for moving around in tightly packed pens. Kelpies are hard workers and will work until they drop. They love to be given jobs to do. Kelpies are very alert, eager to please and very loyal. Kelpies are also famed for their high intelligence. They are easy to train which is important because herding sheep is very complex. There are many commands a herding dog needs to remember such as: hold, gather and keep distance. The Kelpie is an extraordinary breed of dog.

2. Fill in the graphic organiser to show the main idea and supporting details.

Main Idea

Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail

3. Think of an appropriate title for the text and write it in.
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1. Read the text below. Think: What is the main idea? What are the supporting details?

(Answers will vary) (title)
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2. Fill in the graphic organiser to show the main idea and supporting details.

Main Idea
(Answers will vary) Kelpies are special dogs.

Supporting Detail
(Answers will vary) Kelpies are very intelligent.

Supporting Detail
(Answers will vary) Kelpies herd sheep.

Supporting Detail
(Answers will vary) Kelpies love to work.

3. Think of an appropriate title for the text and write it in.

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