

Main Idea #1 COPY COPY

1. Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet explored the Mississippi River. Marquette was born in France. He went to Catholic schools and planned to become a missionary. He came to America to teach the Indians about his church. He heard about the great river from the Indians. Jolliet was a French Canadian explorer. He was sent to the Mississippi in hopes of finding a good trade route. Although their goals were different, Marquette and Jolliet worked together to explore the river.

The main idea in this passage is:

- a. It tells where Jolliet was born.
 - b. It describes the Mississippi River.
 - c. It tells who first discovered the Mississippi River.
 - d. It compares the two explorers, Marquette and Jolliet.
2. If you are feeling blue, what do you do? Perhaps you enjoy being sad. Maybe you would rather be happy. When you feel sad, you can make yourself feel better. All you have to do is get some exercise and get some sleep. You should have at least one good friend. Doing good deeds will help. Writing in a diary about the good things in your life will help too. If you still feel a little sad, act happy. It works like magic to make you feel better!

The main idea in this passage is:

- a. Magic works to make you feel better.
 - b. You should have at least one good friend.
 - c. Some people like to be sad.
 - d. When you feel sad, you can make yourself feel better.
3. Consider how many activities you do outside of school. Remember that school needs to be a priority. It's great to do extra things--as long as they don't rob you of needed energy for learning. If you feel like you are too busy, ask your parents if you can cut down to one or two favorite things. You may try one activity one semester (i.e. being in a play) and something different the next (playing a sport). We often feel we have to do everything at once at once, and that can wear us out!

The main idea in this passage is:

- a. People often feel as if they are too busy.
 - b. The author suggests trying activities at different times.
 - c. We should try to do as much as we can at once.
 - d. School should be a priority.
4. Those people who like going fishing know how important the bait is. Some people choose worms or night crawlers as bait. Others are fond of using minnows, which are very small fish that larger fish would be attracted to. Some people do not like to use live bait. They prefer to use artificial bait, like lures and spinners. Fish are often attracted to the colors and movement of the artificial bait.

Which of these could be used as the title for the passage above?

- a. Artificial Bait vs. Live Bait
- b. How People Choose a Bait
- c. Why Minnows make the Best Fishing Bait
- d. Fishing Bait: Many to Choose From



5. It is estimated that over twenty million pounds of candy corn are sold in the US each year. Brach's, the top manufacturer, sells enough candy corn to circle the earth 4.25 times if each piece were laid end to end. That's a lot of candy corn, but that's nothing compared to Tootsie Roll production. Over 64 million Tootsie Rolls are produced every day! But even Tootsie Rolls have got nothing on the candy industry's staple product, chocolate. Confectioners manufacture over twenty billion pounds of chocolate in the United States each year. Now that's a mouthful!

What is the main idea of the passage?

- a. The United States only produces candy corn.
- b. The United States produces many types of candies in large amounts.
- c. It is estimated that over twenty million pounds of candy corn are sold in the US each year.
- d. But even Tootsie Rolls have got nothing on the candy industry's staple product, chocolate.

