Main Idea in Paragraphs

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the best answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Numbered reading texts

Text 1: Long ago, people wrote letters by hand and sent them by horse. Later, trains and trucks carried the mail faster. Then people could talk on the telephone. Today, many people send messages in just a few seconds.

Text 2: A calendar shows the days, weeks, and months of a year. Each box on the page stands for one day. Families write birthdays and trips in the boxes. A calendar helps people plan what is coming next.

Text 3: A crossing guard helps children cross busy streets. She wears a bright vest so drivers can see her. She holds up a stop sign to stop the cars. Then she waves the children across safely.

Text 4: Magnets pull on things made of iron, like nails and paper clips. A magnet can even pull through paper or thin cloth. Magnets do not pull on wood, plastic, or glass. People use magnets to hold notes on a fridge.

1. Use Text 1. Which detail from the paragraph supports the main idea?
   The telephone came before letters.
   Trains and trucks carried the mail faster.
   Horses still carry most of the mail today.

2. Use Text 2. What is the main idea of the paragraph?
   A calendar helps people plan their days.
   A calendar shows only one week.
   Each box on the page stands for one day.

3. Use Text 3. Which detail from the paragraph supports the main idea?
   A crossing guard drives the school bus.
   A crossing guard works only on weekends.
   She wears a bright vest so drivers can see her.

4. Use Text 4. What is the main idea of the paragraph?
   Magnets pull on some things but not others.
   Magnets do not pull on wood or glass.
   Science helps us learn about the world.

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet

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