

***Inside Reading Level 2***  
**Unit 3 Skill Review: Finding the Main Idea**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Review Skill for Unit 3 lists the main ideas for several paragraphs and asks you to find the paragraphs in Reading 1 that the main ideas are located in.

Let's look at how to find the main idea. Read the section below from Reading 2 "ID Fraud." Then answer the questions that follow.

**Not for Amateurs**

**1** Getting a fake ID is illegal and dangerous, perhaps putting a buyer in contact with criminals or leading into a police trap to capture fraudsters. **2** Also, the process often goes wrong when an inexperienced person tries it. **3** A man from Hong Kong named Steven Chin Leung had quite a lot of trouble trying to use fake IDs. **4** First, he was charged in the U.S. state of Hawaii for trying to get a U.S. passport illegally. **5** To escape those charges, he went to New York and disappeared after the September 11 terrorist attack, when it was impossible to tell who was killed. **6** He was finally caught while trying to get another document—his own death certificate—by illegally pretending to be his brother. **7** Authorities knew something was wrong when their research showed that Leung actually had no brothers.

1. First notice the section title "Not for Amateurs." Amateurs are people who aren't skilled or trained at doing something. Based on this subtitle, the main idea will be about:
  - a. How to make fake IDs
  - b. Where to get fake IDs
  - c. Who uses fake IDs
2. Now let's look at the sentences. Sentences 3–7 discuss one man's story. What is his name? \_\_\_\_\_
3. His story is used as an example to support the main idea. What sentence does his story support? \_\_\_\_
4. Many times the first or last sentence contains the main idea. However, other times the main idea is expressed in a different sentence. Think back to the subtitle and review the questions you've answered above.

Which sentence do you think states the main idea of this paragraph? \_\_\_\_

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**Answer Key**

1. First notice the section title “Not for Amateurs.” Amateurs are people who aren’t skilled or trained at doing something. Based on this subtitle, the main idea will be about:
  - a. How to make fake IDs
  - b. Where to get fake IDs
  - c. Who uses fake IDs
  
2. Now let’s look at the sentences. Sentences 3–7 discuss one man’s story. What is his name? Steven Chin Leung
  
3. His story is used as an example to support the main idea. What sentence does his story support? 2
  
4. Many times the first or last sentence contains the main idea. However, other times the main idea is expressed in a different sentence. Think back to the subtitle and review the questions you’ve answered above.

Which sentence do you think states the main idea of this paragraph? 2