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Finding Facts—Live or Die

by Ross Latham and Peter Sloan

When finding facts you will often be asked questions beginning with *Who*, *When*, *Where*, *What* and, sometimes, *How* and *Why*. You will be asked to search for answers to questions that help you understand the **time** and **place** of the action in the extract, as well as **who** is involved.

Most exercises in this part of the book are based upon factual writing. The story *Live or Die* is based upon a real life experience, so it is a good book to start ‘finding facts’. You should answer with full sentence answers unless told to do otherwise. Full sentence answers help you to understand the questions and think through your answers.

Now read the passage.

A fishing trip goes wrong

Rod Ansell was a 26-year-old stockman (*who*). He worked as a bull-catcher in the north of Western Australia and in the Northern Territory (*where*).

In May 1977 (*when*) Rod decided to go on a short fishing holiday at the mouth of the lonely Victoria River. The river was about 160 kilometres from his home (*how far*) in Kununurra.

Early one morning, Rod packed his vehicle with his equipment and supplies of food and water. As an experienced bushman, he knew he had to be well prepared. He took two boats with him: one large one and one small one. He took blankets, a rifle and bullets, knives and sharpening tools, all rolled up in his swag; also some matches, a small stove and some basic food, packed in tins.

- Who** was Rod Ansell? (**Suggested answer**) Rod Ansell was a (26-year-old) stockman. The words in brackets improve the answer but are not essential. Now you can try these.
- Where** did Rod Ansell work? _____

- How far** did Rod have to go for his holiday? _____

- When** did Rod decide to go for his holiday? _____

- Complete this sentence.
As a person who worked in the bush Rod knew it was important to be _____.

Answers (Answers may vary a little.)

- Rod Ansell was a stockman.
 - Rod worked in the north of Western Australia and the Northern Territory.
 - Rod had to go 160 kilometres.
 - Rod went on holidays in May (1977).
 - prepared
- (The answers can be checked in the underlined sections of the extract).

Finding Facts—Bongarri

By Mary F O'Callaghan

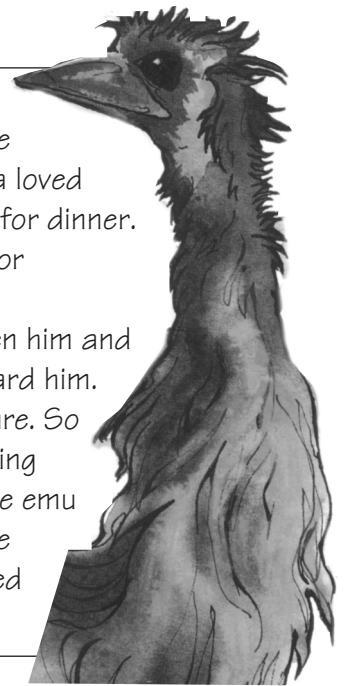
Bongarri was a strong legged emu. He lived on the Queensland plains between Winton and Longreach. There he scratched and pecked for food in the red soil under the brigalow trees.

Bongarri looked like a bundle of untidy feathers, but that did not worry him at all. He and his mate had a lovely round nest and there were ten dark shelled eggs in it. Bongarri sat on the nest, waiting for the eggs to hatch. He was a most contented and happy emu.

But one day a slinky form crept into the brigalow.

It was Tamboola, the dingo, and he was on the prowl for food. Tamboola loved nothing more than emu for dinner. He was on the lookout for something now.

Bongarri had not seen him and he certainly had not heard him. Of this Tamboola was sure. So the dingo lay low, watching and sniffing. He knew the emu was coming closer, so he kept his two ears pointed up well, listening.



1. Who was Tamboola? _____
2. How did Bongarri get his food?

3. What did Bongarri look like?

4. Where did Bongarri have his nest?

5. When was Bongarri most happy?

Complete these sentences.

6. Tamboola's favourite food was _____.
7. Tamboola kept his two ears pointed up so that he could _____.

Finding Facts—Great Dinosaurs

by Ross Latham and Peter Sloan

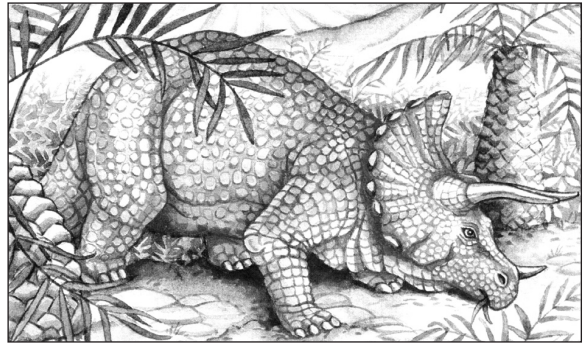
Triceratops

Triceratops was one of the largest of the ceratopsian group of dinosaurs. Ceratopsia means 'horned faces'.

Triceratops had a large body with a massive head. On its head it had three horns. The two brow horns, above its eyes, were over 1 metre long. Around its neck triceratops had a thick bony plate (frill) which protected its neck. It looked a little like a rhinoceros.

Triceratops lived in North America about 130 million years ago. Other members of the ceratopsian family have been found in other parts of the world.

Although it was a big and bulky animal, triceratops could run quite fast. With its long, sharp horns it was better armed than most other plant eaters that roamed the land. Unless attacked, however, triceratops was a peaceful animal.



1. Where did triceratops live?

2. How did triceratops protect itself?

Answer **True** or **False** to these statements.

3. Triceratops was slow and clumsy.
4. Triceratops looked like a very large rhinoceros.
5. Triceratops had two horns above its eyes.
6. Dinosaurs, like triceratops, were only found in North America.
7. Circle the words that describe triceratops.

slow plant eater lazy peaceful horned

8. Triceratops roamed the earth about _____ years ago.

Finding Facts—Kylie the Kangaroo

by Gordon Winch

Kylie was a small kangaroo. She was small when she was a joey in her mother's pouch and she was small when she grew up. No matter how much Kylie ate, she didn't seem to get any bigger. She was small when she started and she stayed small.

Being small was a big problem for Kylie. The other kangaroos laughed at her when they all went walking, because Kylie couldn't keep up.

All kangaroos went walking in those days, for the simple reason that they had not heard of hopping.



A small kangaroo like Kylie took very tiny steps and she was always left behind in the hot Australian sun.

Kylie came last in the Kangaroo Carnival Races and she felt very badly about it. Then she was knocked out in the first round of the Kangaroo Boxing Tournament. Kylie felt bad about that, too. When all the kangaroos went to watch tennis, little Kylie could not even see. She felt even worse.



1. What was Kylie? _____
2. What was Kylie's big problem? _____

3. How were the kangaroos in the extract different? _____

4. Why was Kylie always left behind? _____

5. Name two events in which Kylie did poorly.
 1. _____
 2. _____
6. Complete this sentence.

When Kylie went to watch the tennis she was sad because she _____ .

Finding Facts—Simpson and Duffy

by Mary Small

Once there was a man and a donkey. The man's name was John Simpson Kirkpatrick, but everyone called him Simpson. He was a soldier in the Australian army. He went to war half way across the world, to a place called Gallipoli, in Turkey.

Gallipoli is close to the sea; a hot, dry and dusty place with steep rugged cliffs. The Australians waited in ships off the Anzac Cove. To escape the enemy guns they had to land on the beaches at night. Then they had to scramble up the cliffs to fight. It was a terrible war and many hundreds of brave soldiers were killed.

Simpson worked with the Medical Corps as a stretcher bearer. His job was to go to the battle fields and bring back badly wounded soldiers to the dressing station on the beach. There they were given first aid. The track down the cliffs was long and winding, steep and

dangerous. The soldiers called it Shrapnel Gully because the enemy hid behind trees and big rocks, waiting to fire on anyone who went past.



1. What did everyone call John Simpson Kirkpatrick? _____
2. What was John Simpson Kirkpatrick's job in the army?

3. Where is Gallipoli? _____
4. Describe the track down the cliffs. _____

5. Choose the best way to complete this sentence. (Tick the correct)

The steep track down the cliff was especially dangerous because

it was hot and dusty.

the enemy fired on anyone who used it.

Finding Facts—Numbat, Run

by Jill Morris

The numbat and other carnivorous marsupials

The numbat is a carnivorous marsupial. It eats termites.

The echidna also eats termites, scooping up the living food with its sticky tongue.

The numbat and the echidna do not have much else in common. Unlike the numbat, the echidna hatches its offspring from an egg.

The chuditch (a native cat) carries her babies in a folded pouch on her belly until they are old enough to walk around for

themselves. Then she carries them on her back. The chuditch has six young and six teats.

The dibbler (a marsupial mouse) carries her young in a fold on her belly as she runs about. The dibbler has eight teats, but she has about twelve offspring, so some miss out.

The Tasmanian Devil has a pouch, which opens backwards. It carries its young on its back.

All of these carnivorous marsupials are a little like the numbat. But the numbat is really in a family of its own.

Choose the best answer to complete questions 1 and 2.

1. All the animals are similar because they

- lay eggs.
- eat termites.
- are carnivorous.
- carry their babies on their back.

2. Some baby dibblers may die because

- they cannot find enough termites.
- their mother has a pouch that opens backwards.
- some of the dibbler's eggs do not hatch.
- their mother does not have enough teats.



3. In what way are the echidna and numbat similar? They are similar because they

Finding Facts—Ships and Boats

by Marcia Vaughan

For carrying things

Ships and boats have been used to carry cargo around the world for centuries. In olden times wooden sailing ships were used. Modern cargo ships, built of steel, carry either containers or bulk cargo.

Sailing Ships

The old sailing ships had many heavy canvas sails fixed to tall wooden masts. Large crews were needed to work these sails and sail the ships. Voyages were dangerous. Many ships were wrecked in storms. Sometimes pirates attacked and stole their cargo.

Container Ships

These ships carry all kinds of cargo—food, furniture, machinery, books, cars—packed into large metal boxes called containers. A container is about the size of a small room. It can hold a lot of cargo.

Containers have made cargo shipping much more efficient because they can be loaded on board very quickly and easily by special cranes. Because of their uniform size, containers stack neatly on deck. At the other end they can be unloaded straight on to trains or trucks and taken to their final destination without any unpacking.

1. What is a container ship used for? _____

2. Name one danger for sailing ships. _____
3. Where are containers kept on a container ship? _____

4. How are containers loaded onto a container ship? _____

5. Sailing ships are built of _____ and container ships are built of _____.
6. A container is about the size of a small garbage bin. True
False
7. Containers are taken straight from the ship to their destination. True
False
8. The sails of sailing ships were made of canvas. True
False

Finding Facts—Metal Mouth

by Hazel Edwards

Eehhhooooooooooooooooooooorrrrrrr!

‘Steve! Are you all right? Where does it hurt?’

‘You sound like an elephant blowing its nose!’

That Monday was the first time we heard Steve play the trumpet. Well, you couldn’t call it playing, really. My brother just blew, and a strange hooing noise came out. His dental plate clicked on the trumpet, then some drips fell out the end.

‘Yuk!’

Steve made excuses. ‘My plate gets in the way. And my lips are sunburnt from sports day. But I’ll be ready for the school concert next week.’

‘Are you playing the trumpet in the end of year school concert?’ asked mum. She looked shocked.

I knew how she felt. Steve might not be the worst musician in the world, but he’d be in the last ten. When Mr Petersen told him to stop recorder lessons, we understood.

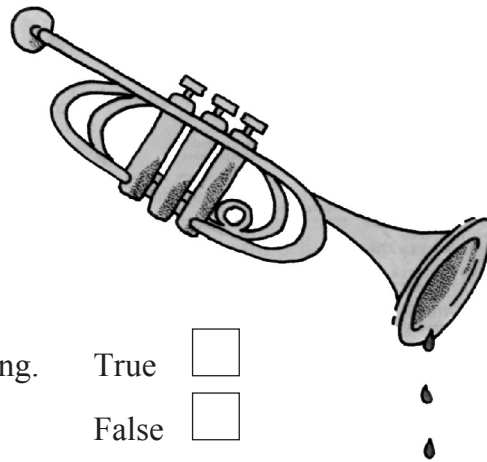
1. Who was making the strange noise?

2. Steve began playing the trumpet

- on Monday.
- on sports day.
- at the school concert.
- when Mr Petersen told him to.

3. Steve blamed his sunburn for his bad playing.

- True
- False



4. Mr Petersen told Steve to stop _____.

5. Steve’s playing was so bad his family thought he might be _____.

6. Select the best ending.

Steve’s trumpet playing sounded like

- an elephant blowing its nose.
- Mr Petersen playing the recorder.

Finding the Main Idea—Live or Die

by Ross Latham and Peter Sloan

When reading paragraphs you will often be asked to find the **main idea**. The main idea is often the same as the **topic sentence**. It is the most important piece of information for the reader. All other sentences in the paragraph add to the meaning of the topic sentence. They are often called **supporting detail**.

The topic sentence is often the first sentence but it can come in the middle of the paragraph or at the end. You will be asked to search for answers to questions that help you understand the story. The

topic sentence, if it is quite long, may sometimes contain more information than just the main idea.

If we look at the story *Live or Die* again, we can use it to start ‘finding the main idea’. Any piece of writing can be used for more than one type of comprehension question.

Paragraphs are usually made up of more than one sentence (see Understanding Paragraphs, p. 49). Titles and headings often give the main idea of a book or of a chapter.

Now read the passage.

A fishing trip goes wrong

Rod Ansell was a 26-year-old stockman. (*main idea/topic sentence*) He worked as a bull-catcher in the north of Western Australia and in the Northern Territory. (*supporting detail*)

In May 1977 Rod decided to go on a short fishing holiday at the mouth of the lonely Victoria River. (*main idea/topic sentence*) The river was about 160 kilometres from his home in Kununurra. (*supporting detail*)

Early one morning, Rod packed his vehicle with his equipment and supplies of food and water. (*main idea/topic sentence*) As an experienced bushman, he knew he had to be well prepared. (*supporting detail*) He took two boats with him: one large one and one small one. (*supporting detail*) He took blankets, a rifle and bullets, knives and sharpening tools, all rolled up in his swag; also some matches, a small stove and some basic food, packed in tins. (*supporting detail*)

- How many paragraphs are there in this extract from *Live or Die*?
- How many topic sentences would you expect to find?
- List three things that Rod took with him to Victoria River. (supporting detail)
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- What could be another good title for this extract?

Answers

- three
- three
- boats, blankets, food (other listed items also correct)
- Getting Ready OR A Special Holiday, and so on.

Finding the Main Idea—Bongarri

by Mary F O'Callaghan

Bongarri was a strong legged emu. He lived on the Queensland plains between Winton and Longreach. There he scratched and pecked for food in the red soil under the brigalow trees.

Bongarri looked like a bundle of untidy feathers, but that did not worry him at all. He and his mate had a lovely round nest and there were ten dark shelled eggs in it. Bongarri sat on the nest, waiting for the eggs to hatch. He was a most contented and happy emu.

But one day a slinky form crept into the brigalow.

It was Tamboola, the dingo, and he was on the prowl for food. Tamboola loved nothing more than emu for dinner. He was on the lookout for something now.

Bongarri had not seen him and he certainly had not heard him. Of this Tamboola was sure. So the dingo lay low, watching and sniffing. He knew the emu was coming closer, so he kept his two ears pointed up well, listening.

1. How many paragraphs are in this extract? _____
 2. What is the topic sentence for the last paragraph? _____
-
3. Paragraph 4 describes
 4. Paragraph 2 tells the reader why Bongarri
 - looked untidy.
 - sat on the nest.
 - looked so happy.
 - had not seen the dingo.
 5. Tamboola was on the prowl for _____.
 6. If you had to give the extract a title, a good one would be
 - Minding the Eggs.
 - Winton and Longreach.
 - Silent Danger.
 - The Lookout.

Finding the Main Idea—Celebrations

by Ida Chionh

Trung Thu

This Vietnamese festival falls on the fifteenth day of the eighth month of the Chinese lunar calendar (around September). It celebrates the full moon of mid-autumn, a time when the moon is traditionally at its fullest and most beautiful. This festival dates back hundreds of years.

People watch for the full moon to appear so that the festival can begin. There is a special meal, including moon cakes. Moon cakes are made with thin soft pastry,

enclosing a delicious filling, either sweet or savoury.

Trung Thu ('troong-too') also celebrates Children's Day in Vietnam. Children carry lighted lanterns and parade through the streets. The lanterns come in all shapes and sizes. Some are shaped like the full moon, others like birds, fish, butterflies, even aeroplanes.

There are dragon dances with drums and cymbals crashing. Everyone joins in the noisy celebrations, late into the night.

- How many paragraphs are there in this extract? _____
- Draw a line to match the main idea in the paragraph with the paragraph number.

Paragraph 1

waiting for the moon

Paragraph 2

the time of the festival

Paragraph 3

children celebrating

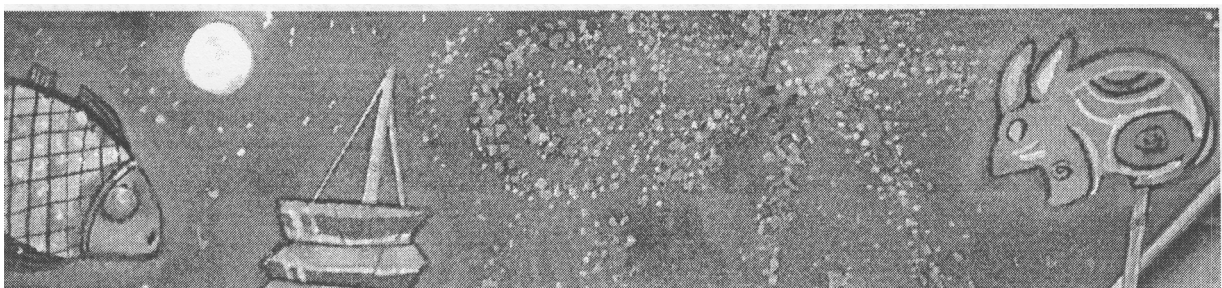
Paragraph 4

noisy celebrations

- If you had to give the extract another title, a good title would be

<input type="checkbox"/> The Moon.	<input type="checkbox"/> A Festival for Everyone.
<input type="checkbox"/> Flying Kites.	<input type="checkbox"/> Eating Moon Cakes.
- Which paragraph tells you that Trung Thu is more than a family celebration?

<input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph 3
<input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph 4



Finding the Main Idea—Misokolaki

by Peter Alexiou

Once upon a time on a faraway Greek island, an old man and an old woman lived alone in a small stone house near a forest. The old man was a woodcutter.

One night the old man and the old woman were peeling broad beans and putting them into a pot on the stove.

‘If only we had children to bring a little joy and happiness into our lives,’ the old woman sighed loudly.

‘Yes,’ said the old man. ‘If only we had children.’

Before they went to bed that night the old woman said a special prayer.

‘O God,’ she prayed, ‘how I wish that all the broad beans in the pot could become children!’

Early next morning the woodcutter and his wife were woken up by a terrible noise. Their house was full of children. Some were playing and some were singing and some were quarrelling. Others were crying out for food. The house was filled with a terrible racket.

- How many paragraphs are there in this extract? _____
- This is the last paragraph. Tick the box that is the main idea (topic sentence).
 - Early next morning the woodcutter and his wife were woken up by a terrible noise.
 - Their house was full of children.
 - Some were playing and some were singing and some were quarrelling.
 - Others were crying out for food.
 - The house was filled with a terrible racket.
- If you had to give the extract another title, a good title would be
 - Peeling Beans.
 - A Prayer is Answered.
 - The Naughty Children.
 - The Woodcutter.
- The old man and his wife were very happy. True
False
- The old woman and old man lived on an island. True
False

Finding the Main Idea—Sports and Games

by Shane Power

Ready, Set, Go!

In all countries throughout the world, many of the skills for games developed from the need to stay alive. Some games developed from the work people did, such as hunting and fishing. People needed the skills of throwing, hitting and climbing to catch their food. Games also helped people to stay fit and strong.

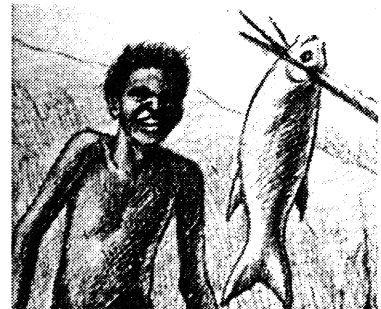
Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for many thousands of years and so were the first people to play games and sports here. Many of the sporting skills developed from everyday life. Often they used their imagination and their love of play and competition to make up games as enjoyable leisure activities.

Many of the sports and games are still played today, but as in all cultures some have changed and many new ones have been added.

1. What is the main idea in paragraph 1? _____

2. The main idea in the last paragraph is: (tick one box)

- people play many sports.
- the games of Aboriginal people haven't changed.
- people all over the world learn to play new games.



3. This is the second paragraph. Tick the box that is the main idea (topic sentence).

- Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for many thousands of years and so were the first people to play games and sports here.
- Many of the sporting skills developed from everyday life.
- Often they used their imagination and their love of play and competition to make up games as enjoyable leisure activities.

4. If you had to give the extract a subtitle (to go under **Ready, Set, Go!**), a good subtitle might be

- The beginning of sport in Australia. Why games change.
- Where games came from. Learning to hunt.

Write your subtitle in the box under Ready, Set, Go!

Finding the Main Idea—Where Did My Tonsils Go?

by Hazel Edwards

I've never been in hospital before. Except when I was born. That was eight years, two months and four days ago.

When you're a baby you don't remember much. This time was different.

'You're going into hospital,' said Mum. 'To get your tonsils out.'

'Good! I'll miss school.'

'No you won't,' said Mum. 'You're going to hospital during the Christmas holidays.'

'Oh, no!'

All winter before, I had sore throats. We had been to Dr Argos so many times. In the waiting room, I read all her old magazines. And the nurse knew my name.

'Hullo, David. Are you here again?'

Dr Argos is my doctor. She's nice. She looked down my throat. Then she checked my ears with a funny shaped torch. She wrote notes on my card.

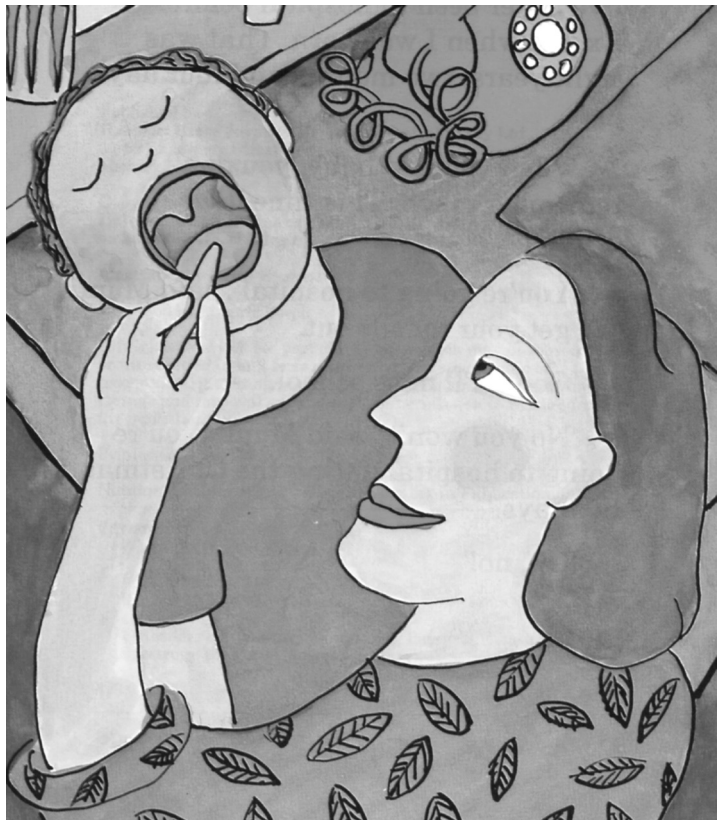
1. How many paragraphs are there in this extract? _____
2. Write the topic sentence for the first paragraph.

3. Who is the main person (character) in the extract?

- Dr Argos
 Mum
 David
 the nurse

4. Which paragraph tells you why David had to go to the doctor? Paragraph _____

5. David went to the doctor to
 get his tonsils out.
 read magazines.
 see the nurse.
 have his throat checked.



Finding the Main Idea—Pandas

by Christine A Deacon

The giant panda is about 1.5 metres long and weighs about 100 to 135 kilograms when fully grown. Its bones are very heavy, making it about twice as heavy as you would expect for an animal of its size.

Pandas are patterned in black and white, with large black patches over their eyes. Their fur is very thick and coarse, up to 5 centimetres long all over their bodies. Their skin is two-toned, like their fur: dark underneath the black fur, and pink under the white fur.

Pandas have a very long head. Their jaws are very strong and they have thick, wide teeth. Like humans, pandas get two sets of teeth: a baby set and an adult set.

Pandas are like humans in another way: they can grab things tightly with their hands, because they have thumbs. Their 'thumb' is actually a wrist bone, however, and they have five fingers as well as the thumb on each hand.

1. How many paragraphs are there in this extract? _____

2. Draw a line to match up the main idea and the supporting detail to information taken from the last paragraph.

Main idea

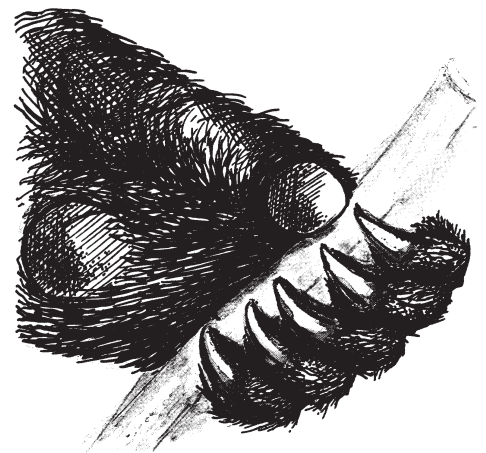
Pandas have five fingers.

Pandas are like humans.

Supporting detail

Pandas can grab things tightly.

Pandas' thumbs are a wrist bone.



3. The main idea in paragraph 2 is to do with the panda's

colour.

skin.

fur length.

eye spots.

4. Which paragraph tells you about the size of the panda? Paragraph _____

5. A good heading for this extract would be

How Pandas Feed.

Baby Pandas.

Endangered Animals.

Features of the Panda.

Finding the Main Idea—The Birthday That Grew

by Judith Womersley

They passed the chemist's and Anna said, 'Why don't you buy your Mum some soap?' But Vu said no.

They passed the dentist's and Bill said, 'There's nothing to buy there.'

They passed the newsagent.

'You could buy a notebook for her,' said Bill. Vu shook his head.

They passed the antique shop.

'You could buy that table,' said Bill.

'Antiques are too dear,' said Anna. 'My Mum says Grandma's furniture is old, but it's worth a lot of money.'

They came to a wool shop and looked at the jumpers in the window.

'That's what I'll buy her,' said Vu.

'What?' asked Anna. 'A jumper?'

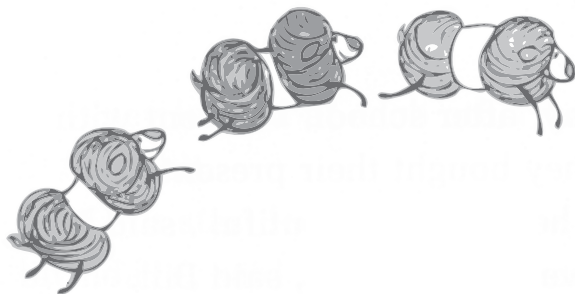
'No,' said Vu. He smiled. 'I'll buy her a ball of wool. My Mum once said she'd knit if she had the time.'

1. How many paragraphs are there in this extract? _____

2. Find a paragraph that has only one sentence. Rewrite it here. _____

3. If you had to give the extract a title, a good one would be

- Looking for a Present.
- Going to the Dentist.
- The Notebook.
- Grandma's Furniture.



4. Vu has difficulty finding a present for his Mum. True

False

5. Two of Vu's friends are helping him find a present. True

False

6. Vu thought buying (a jumper a ball of wool soap) was a good idea. (circle one word)

Page 1: Finding Facts—Introduction**Live or Die** by Ross Latham and Peter Sloan

1. Rod Ansell was a (twenty-six-year-old) stockman.
2. Rod worked in the north of Western Australia (and in the Northern Territory).
3. Rod had to go 160 kilometres. 4. Rod went on holidays in May, 1977. 5. prepared.

Page 2: Finding Facts—Bongarri by Mary F O'Callaghan

1. Tamboola was a dingo.
2. He scratched and pecked for food in the red soil (under the brigalow trees).
3. Bongarri looked like a bundle of untidy feathers.
4. His nest was on the Queensland plains (between Winton and Longreach).
5. He was most happy when sitting on his nest.
6. emu. 7. listen.

Page 3: Finding Facts—Great Dinosaurs (Triceratops) by Ross Latham and Peter Sloan

1. Triceratops lived in North America (about 130 million years ago).
2. On its head it had three horns (and around its neck it had a thick bony plate (frill) which protected its neck).
3. False 4. True 5. True 6. False 7. plant eater, peaceful, horned
8. Triceratops roamed the earth about **130 million** years ago.

Page 4: Finding Facts—Kylie the Kangaroo by Gordon Winch

1. Kylie was a small kangaroo. 2. Kylie was very small (and she didn't seem to get any bigger).
3. All kangaroos walked in those days.
4. Kylie was a small kangaroo who took very tiny steps.
5. 1. the Kangaroo Boxing Tournament 2. the Kangaroo Carnival Races
6. When Kylie went to watch the tennis she was sad because **she couldn't watch (see) the games.**

Page 5: Finding Facts—Simpson and Duffy by Mary Small

1. Everyone called him Simpson. 2. Simpson worked (with the Medical Corps) as a stretcher bearer.
3. Gallipoli is in Turkey.
4. The track down the cliffs was long and winding, steep and dangerous.
5. The steep track down the cliff was especially dangerous because **the enemy fired on anyone who used it.**

Page 6: Finding Facts—Numbat, Run by Jill Morris

1. All the animals in the extract are similar because they **are carnivorous.**
2. Some baby dibblers might die because **their mother does not have enough teats.**
3. They (the echidna and numbat) are similar because they both eat termites.

Page 7: Finding Facts—Ships and Boats by Marcia Vaughan

1. Container ships are used to carry all kinds of cargo.
2. Many ships were wrecked in storms. OR Sometimes pirates attacked and stole their cargo.
3. Containers are stacked on the deck. 4. Containers are loaded on board by special cranes.
5. Sailing ships are built of **wood** and container ships are built of **steel**.
6. False 7. True 8. True

Page 8: Finding Facts—Metal Mouth by Hazel Edwards

1. Steve was making the strange noise (playing the trumpet). 2. On Monday. 3. True
4. Mr Petersen told Steve to stop **having recorder lessons.**
5. Steve's playing was so bad his family thought he might be **hurt.**
6. Steve's trumpet playing sounded like **an elephant blowing its nose.**

Page 9: Finding the Main Idea—Introduction

Live or Die by Ross Latham and Peter Sloan

1. Three 2. Three
3. boats, blankets, food as well as a rifle, bullets, swag, knives and other listed items
4. **Getting Ready** or **A Special Holiday** (other answers possible)

Page 10: Finding the Main Idea—Bongarri by Mary F O’Callaghan

1. Five 2. Bongarri had not seen him and he certainly had not heard him.
3. the dingo (looking for food). 4. looked so happy. 5. food.
6. Silent Danger.

Page 11: Finding the Main Idea—Celebrations by Ida Chionh

1. Four
2. Paragraph 1 — waiting for the moon
 Paragraph 2 — the time of the festival
 Paragraph 3 — children celebrating
 Paragraph 4 — noisy celebrations
3. A good title would be **A Festival for Everyone**.
4. Paragraph 4

Page 12: Finding the Main Idea—Misokolaki by Peter Alexiou

1. Seven 2. Early next morning the woodcutter and his wife were woken up by a terrible noise.
3. A good title would be **A Prayer is Answered**. 4. False 5. True

Page 13: Finding the Main Idea—Sports and Games by Shane Power

1. In all countries many of the skills for games developed from the need to stay alive.
2. People all over the world learn to play new games.
3. Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for many thousands of years and so were the first people to play games and sports here.
4. A good subtitle might be **The beginning of sport in Australia**.

Page 14: Finding the Main Idea—Where Did My Tonsils Go? by Hazel Edwards

1. Nine 2. I’ve never been in hospital before. 3. David 4. Paragraph 3
5. David went to the doctor’s to get his tonsils out.

Page 15: Finding the Main Idea—Pandas by Christine A Deacon

1. Four
2. Main idea — Pandas have five fingers.
 Supporting detail — Pandas are like humans.
 Supporting detail — Pandas can grab things tightly.
 Supporting detail — Pandas’ thumbs are a wrist bone.
3. The panda’s **colour**.
4. Paragraph 1.
5. A good heading for this extract would be **Features of the Panda**.

Page 16: Finding the Main Idea—The Birthday That Grew by Judith Womersley

1. Eleven 2. There are six, including **They passed the antique shop**.
3. A good title would be **Looking for a Present**.
4. True 5. True 6. a ball of wool