

Recognizing Main Idea and Details

Review The **main idea** is the most important idea in a paragraph. A **topic sentence** often states the main idea. **Supporting details** tell more about the main idea. Types of supporting details include **facts**, **examples**, **sensory details**, and **reasons**.

Directions: First, **read** the boxed paragraph. Then, use the paragraph to **answer** each question and **complete** the chart.

Earthquakes have often shaken the city of San Francisco. In 1906, when it was a new and booming town, it was nearly destroyed by an earthquake that measured 8.6 on the Richter scale. Over 400 people were killed and 28,000 buildings reduced to rubble. A less severe earthquake struck the city in 1989. It did far less damage and claimed only 67 lives. Many people remember it best because it halted the San Francisco–Oakland World Series for 12 days while damages were repaired.

- The topic sentence in the paragraph is: _____
- The supporting details in the paragraph are mainly (CIRCLE ONE.)
facts **sensory details** **reasons** **examples**

3. Main Idea:	
4. Supporting Detail	
5. Supporting Detail	
6. Supporting Detail	
7. Supporting Detail	
8. Supporting Detail	