

PART THREE: Check Your Understanding

Remember: Facts and details explain or support the main idea.

- ★ Look for sentences that provide information about the main idea.
- ★ Look for sentences that explain the *who, what, where, when, why* and *how* of the main idea.

Read this selection from the beginning of a novel. As you read, ask yourself, 'What is the main idea? Which sentences provide more information about the main idea?' Then answer the questions.

My story begins at Bramley Hall. For those of you who have not had the misery of spending time at the Hall, Bramley is a large house with over 30 rooms. It was fashioned many years ago from dull grey stone taken from a nearby quarry. The glass of the windows is so thick and the panes so small, each separated by a thick bar of lead, that little sunlight is ever able to reach inside the house.

A guide book I once read described Bramley Hall as imposing and majestic, but the book was very old. Whatever majesty the house once had had long since vanished by the time I first touched the front door's tarnished brass knocker.

3. How is Bramley Hall described?
 - (A) as a large house with over 30 rooms
 - (B) as a nearby quarry
 - (C) as a room inside a majestic building
 - (D) as a boarding school
4. Bramley Hall is constructed of
 - (A) thick bars of lead.
 - (B) dull grey stone.
 - (C) thick panes of glass.
 - (D) tarnished brass.

