

# Power Word: Summarize

This is a guide for the video on the word Summarize.  
Be prepared to take notes and pause the video when necessary.

## Guided Notes:

Summarize means to cover the main points  
of a topic in as few words as possible.

### Strategies for Summarizing:

1. Look for \_\_\_\_\_ that provide information about the main idea.
2. Look for sentences that answer \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and how about the main idea.
3. Look for information that
  - a. Describes a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or thing.
  - b. Tells the \_\_\_\_\_ or order of events.
  - c. Explains how to \_\_\_\_\_ something.

**READ** the following selection and complete the chart that follows:



Rebecca, an Amish girl, is wearing black leather shoes, long black stockings, and a bright turquoise dress covered by a matching turquoise cape and apron. Her hair is long and braided; she has worn it that way all her life and could probably braid it in her sleep. It is covered by a white cap with a narrow pleat going from front to back...Rebecca's ancestors wore simple forms of European clothes popular when the sect began in the seventeenth century. Not until two hundred years later did Amish leaders begin to enforce traditional clothing. Now dressing in proper Amish style is part of the Ordnung, the set of rules that governs their behavior.

By Lucie Germer from Cobblestone's November 1987 issue:  
The Amish, © 1987, Cobblestone Publishing, Inc., 7 School Street,  
Peterborough, NH 03458. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.

Based on your reading about Rebecca and her Amish clothing, make notes based on the strategies for summarizing.

Strategies for Summarizing		My Notes
1.	Sentences that provide information about the main idea.	
2.	Sentences that answer who, what, when, where, and how about the main idea.	
3.	Information that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes a person, place, or thing</li> <li>• Sequence of events</li> <li>• How to do something</li> </ul>	
4.	Information and ideas that can be grouped together or combined.	

You've gathered details from the text to frame your summary. When writing a summary, you must cover the main points in as few words as possible, but not copy from one part of the text. Be sure to gather details from the beginning, middle, and end of the text.

Main idea from the <b>BEGINNING</b>	Main idea from the <b>MIDDLE</b>	Main idea from the <b>END</b>

Now write a one-sentence summary about Rebecca, an Amish girl.

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# Summarizing Skill and Assessments

The following questions are often used on assessments and require the skill of summarizing. Use the featured text about Amish dress (or another reading selection) to answer the questions.

1. What is the main idea?
2. What would be a good title for this selection?
3. What facts could be included in this selection?
4. Discuss the main ideas of a topic.
5. What is the most important thing that happened or is explained?



Write a one-sentence summary on how to summarize!