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A

What tricks do magicians do?
Discuss your answers.



Reading Skill

Finding the stated main idea

Main ideas can be found at the start, in the middle or at the end of paragraphs. When a main idea is written out in the paragraph, it is called a stated main idea.

B

Underline the stated main idea. Then check [✓] where in the paragraph it is.

One of the tricks a magician does is called production. To do this, he produces something from nothing. Examples include pulling a rabbit out of an empty hat, filling an empty bucket with coins or even the magician himself appearing in a puff of smoke.

start

middle

end



Read the passage.

It's magic!

Magicians perform magic tricks to show that something impossible has happened. There are many kinds of magic tricks.

One kind of magic trick is called production. To do this, a magician produces something from nothing. Examples include pulling a rabbit out of an empty hat, filling an empty bucket with coins or even the magician himself appearing in a puff of smoke.

A magician is holding a coin. He might snap his fingers and the coin suddenly disappears. This trick is an example of the vanish, which is the opposite of production. The vanish is a kind of magic trick in which things disappear. After putting a bird in a cage and then covering the cage with cloth, the magician waves his wand and pulls away the cloth. The bird has vanished.



Perhaps a rope is cut in half with a knife. The magician does something special and suddenly the rope is one complete piece again. Or after tearing a newspaper into pieces, the magician rubs the pieces together and the newspaper becomes whole again. These tricks restore things to the way they were before. Restoration is another common type of magic trick.

D Answer the questions.

- 1 What do magicians do?
- 2 What kind of trick makes things appear?
- 3 What kind of trick makes things disappear?

Practice

E Write the stated main idea for each paragraph. Then circle where in the paragraph it is.

Paragraph 2

start / middle / end


Paragraph 4

start / middle / end

Paragraph 3

start / middle / end

TIP Decide whether a sentence gives you a main idea or a detail. A main idea tells you what the paragraph is about. A detail gives you supporting information.



F Look at the highlighted words in the passage. Find out what they mean using the Mini-dictionary on pages 69–72.

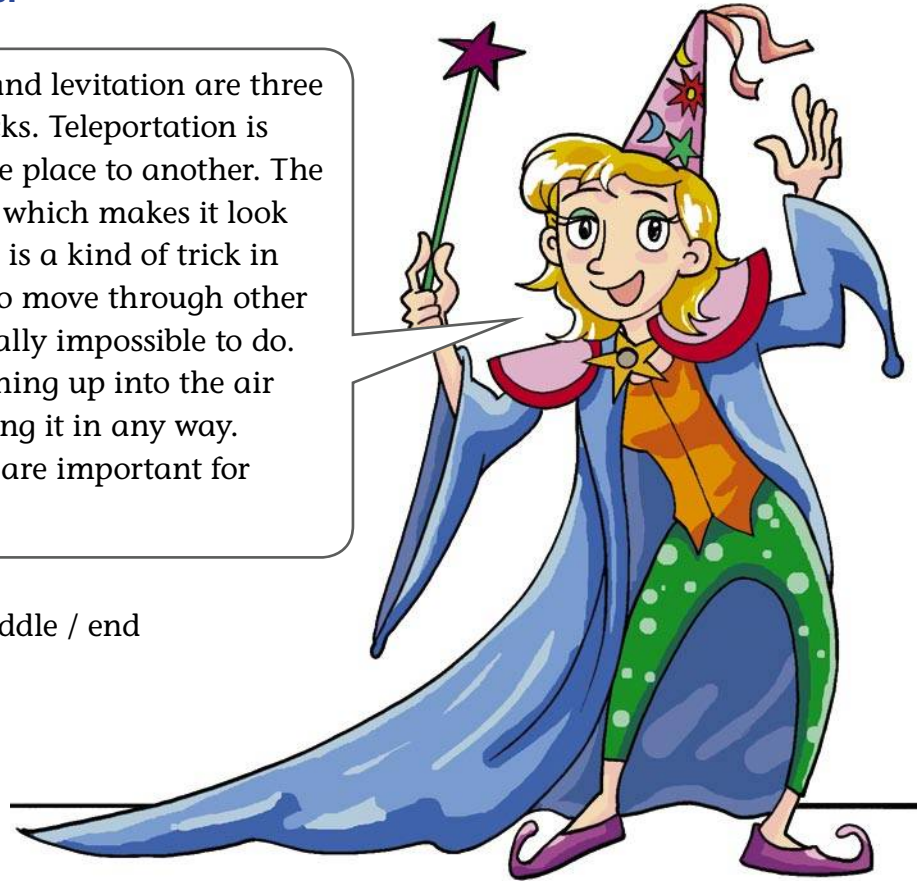
Integration



3 Read the paragraph. Underline the stated main idea. Then circle where in the paragraph it is.

Teleportation, penetration and levitation are three different kinds of magic tricks. Teleportation is moving something from one place to another. The moving process is invisible, which makes it look like real magic. Penetration is a kind of trick in which solid things appear to move through other solid things, which is normally impossible to do. Levitation is moving something up into the air without touching it or holding it in any way. These kinds of magic tricks are important for good magicians to learn.

Stated main idea: start / middle / end



4 Listen and write the names of the magic tricks.

Kind of magic trick	Name
1 Teleportation	
2 Penetration	
3 Levitation	



Make your own magic trick. Then tell the class.