



ienglish

LIFE IS THE CLASSROOM - IMMERSE YOURSELF

STRATEGIES: IDENTIFYING MAIN IDEAS >> see it

Activity 1:

Watch the video **Identify Main Ideas**. After watching the video, check the box beside each statement that represents a main idea. Check the **Answer Key** to verify your answers.

Strategies are plans, methods, and techniques that help you accomplish your task successfully.

Behind the Scenes strategies help you to learn English easily.

Spotlight strategies help you focus more on specific aspects of English.

Spotlight strategies are more important than **Behind the Scenes** strategies.

You should try to understand every word when you are listening to someone speak English or reading something written in English.

Listening to the stressed words in a sentence can help you understand the gist of the message.

Stressed words (or *content* words) give you most of the information in a sentence.

Titles, headlines, pictures, words in bold, and tables of contents can help you understand the main ideas in written English texts.

You must be able to find and restate the topic sentence in a paragraph if you want to become fluent in English.



Activity 2:

Watch the video again, listening for phrasal verbs listed below. Try to guess the meaning of each one. Check the "Answer Key" to verify your answers.

1. We're going to be *looking at* seven spotlight strategies

We're going to be ***examining*** seven spotlight strategies.

We're going to be ***trying*** to find seven spotlight strategies.

We're going to be ***watching*** a video about seven spotlight strategies.

2. This video is mainly *focused on* receptive skills.

This video is mainly ***unclear*** because of receptive skills.

This video is mainly ***summarizing*** receptive skills.

This video is mainly ***describing*** in detail receptive skills.

3. This means you are *looking for* the main message, or theme.

This means you are ***examining*** the main message, or theme.

This means you are ***trying*** to find the main message, or theme.

This means you are ***watching*** the main message, or theme.

4. These words and syllables *stand out*.

These words and syllables ***are larger than the others***.

These words and syllables ***are more noticeable than the others***.

These words and syllables ***should be ignored***.

5. *Listen for* stressed words.

Count stressed words.

Pay attention to stressed words.

Identify stressed words.

6. Longer texts are *made up* of individual paragraphs.

Longer texts are ***composed*** of individual paragraphs.

Longer texts are ***invented*** by individual paragraphs.

Longer texts are ***created*** by individual paragraphs.



Activity 2 (continued):

Watch the video again, listening for phrasal verbs listed below. Try to guess the meaning of each one. Check the "Answer Key" to verify your answers.

7. You can practice this with the activities that **go with** this episode.

You can practice this with the activities that **match** this episode.

You can practice this with the activities that **follow** this episode.

You can practice this with the activities that **accompany** this episode.

8. What happens when you **come across** a new word you don't understand?

What happens when you **ignore** a new word you don't understand?

What happens when you **see or hear** a new word you don't understand?

What happens when you **abandon** a new word you don't understand?



Activity 3:

Summarizing main ideas is an important skill to learn, but it is not always easy. This is a good opportunity to practice!

Sort the following sentences into the appropriate column in the table. After you have sorted the sentences, check your answers using the **Answer Key**.

You will revisit these sentences in a **Try It** activity.

Too Vague These sentences are not detailed enough. They do not have enough information to summarize the main ideas from the video well.	Good These sentences are clear summaries of the ideas from the video.	Too Detailed These sentences contain too many details or too much extra information. They are helpful, but they could still be summarized more

- **Behind the Scenes** strategies involve the strategies featured in the iLEAP Cycle and Notebook videos, and they help to organize, plan, and monitor an independent learner of English's learning in a way that is like the stage crew of a play; that is, they give learners a foundation from which they can create their very own course.
- **Spotlight** strategies are important and help learners a lot.
- You do not need to understand every detail in a text to understand its main idea.
- Listen for stressed words to understand the gist of spoken English; understanding the **swallowed** words is less important.
- The structural qualities of some written texts – like headlines, tables of contents, bold print, paragraph organization, and/or topic sentences – can help you identify the main ideas in them because they make certain qualities of the text clearer to readers.



Activity 1: ANSWER KEY

Watch the video **Identify Main Ideas**. After watching the video, check the box beside each statement that represents a main idea.

Strategies are plans, methods, and techniques that help you accomplish your task successfully.

Behind the Scenes strategies help you to learn English easily.

Behind the Scenes strategies help you to stay organized, make a plan, and monitor yourself as you study. Sometimes, this takes some work, but it's worth it!

Spotlight strategies help you focus more on specific aspects of English.

Spotlight strategies are more important than **Behind the Scenes** strategies.

Both types of strategies are important.

You should try to understand every word when you are listening to someone speak English or reading something written in English.

You should try to find the main idea of the spoken or written text. This is also sometimes called the gist, or the main message.

Listening to the stressed words in a sentence can help you understand the gist of the message.

Stressed words (or *content* words) give you most of the information in a sentence.

Titles, headlines, pictures, words in bold, and tables of contents can help you understand the main ideas in written English texts.

You must be able to find and restate the topic sentence in a paragraph if you want to become fluent in English.

Finding and restating the topic sentence is an important part of building receptive skills in English. Being fluent is a productive skill.



Activity 2: ANSWER KEY

Watch the video again, listening for phrasal verbs listed below. Try to guess the meaning of each one. Check the "Answer Key" to verify your answers.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spotlight strategies are important and help learners a lot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You do not need to understand every detail in a text to understand its main idea. • Listen for stressed words to understand the gist of spoken English; understanding the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behind the Scenes strategies involve the strategies featured in the iLEAP Cycle and Notebook videos, and they help to organize, plan, and monitor an independent learner of English's learning in a way that is like the stage crew of a play; that is, they give learners a foundation from which they can create their very own course. • The structural qualities of some written texts – like headlines, tables of contents, bold print, paragraph organization, and/or topic sentences – can help you identify the main ideas in them because they make certain qualities of the text clearer to readers.