Get the Gist

**Identify the main idea, restate the main idea in 10 words or fewer.**

***The teacher explains how to restate the most important point of a section of text in one’s own words.***

***The teacher assigns a passage for the students to read.***

**Students identify the most important idea in a section of text by using the following steps:**

1. **Identify whether the paragraph is primarily about a person, place, or thing.**
2. **Identify which person, place, or thing is being discussed.**
3. **Identify what is being said about the person, place, or thing that the paragraph is principally about (i.e., identify the basic argument, angle, spin, or perspective that the section adopts regarding its topic).**
4. **Restate the essence of the paragraph in a sentence containing ten or fewer words.**