

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Summarizing

An objective summary is a short statement or paragraph that tells what an article or a story is about.  
It does not include irrelevant details or the opinions of the person writing it.

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**Directions:** Answer the questions below to help you write an objective summary of "The Amazing Powers of Jen Bricker."

**1.** Who is the article mainly about?

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**2.** What challenge does this person face?

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**3.** How does this person overcome the challenge?

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**4.** What does this person learn about him- or herself that changes his or her life?

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**5.** How is this person doing today?

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# Central Ideas and Details

A central idea of a text is one of the main points the author is making.  
(Sometimes a central idea is called a main idea.)

A central idea can always be supported with details from the text.

**Directions:** Follow the prompts below to explore the central ideas and supporting details in "The Amazing Powers of Jen Bricker."

**1. Reread the section "Alone in the World." Which quote below BEST expresses the central idea of this section?**

- Ⓐ Jen Bricker was born in Salem, Illinois.
- Ⓑ Jen Bricker's biological father forbid her biological mother from seeing Jen in the hospital after Jen was born.
- Ⓒ More than 110,000 special-needs kids are waiting to be adopted in the U.S.
- Ⓓ Jen Bricker was abandoned as a baby because she was born with no legs.

**2. Read the central idea of the section "Agile and Fearless" stated in the box below. Then read the lines listed under it from the article. Which detail does NOT support the central idea?**

**Central Idea:**  
**Jen was naturally athletic.**

- Ⓐ "She quickly learned to get around using her arms." (p. 6)
- Ⓑ "She uses a wheelchair to get around when she doesn't want to get dirty." (p. 6)
- Ⓒ "Growing up, Jen was always playing with her big brothers, scurrying up rocks, swimming, and bouncing on the big trampoline in her family's backyard." (p. 6)
- Ⓓ "Jen is as adept walking on her hands as others are walking on their feet . . ." (p. 6)

I chose \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

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