Main Idea

The main idea of a paragraph tells the main topic of the paragraph. It is what all or most of the sentences are about. The main idea of a paragraph is often the first sentence of the paragraph.

Circle the correct main idea for the paragraph.

Apples can be used to make many delicious treats. Some people like to slice apples and dip them in caramel. Others like to cook apples and make them into applesauce. You might enjoy cutting apples and baking them in a pie. Maybe you like to use freshly picked apples to make fresh apple juice. Many people like to just pick an apple off of a tree and take a big bite. There are many ways to enjoy this wholesome food.

1. What is the main idea of this paragraph?

   (A) you can use apples to make apple juice           (B) apples are good for you
   (C) you can make many kinds of treats from apples   (D) you have to cook apples before you can make applesauce

Chameleons might change colors for several different reasons. If a chameleon is in the sun, it often changes from brown to light green. This causes the chameleon’s skin to reflect the bright sunlight and helps it cool down. If the chameleon is cold, it will change its skin to a darker color. The darker color helps the chameleon soak up heat from the sun. Sometimes chameleons change color based on the mood they are in. If some chameleons get angry, they turn bright colors to let everyone know they are in a bad mood. The next time you see a chameleon, try to figure out why it is changing colors.

2. What is the main idea of this paragraph?

   (A) chameleons change colors for different reasons              (B) chameleons turn dark colors when they are cold
   (C) chameleons have anger problems                               (D) chameleons like to soak up the sun