

Sum It Up

1. Fold a paper into three parts, or draw two lines down your page (to make three sections).
2. In the first column, identify the title and author of the text (A).
3. In the second column, choose a strong verb from the reference sheet (M).
4. In the third column, record the main idea of the reading (C).

A IDENTIFY THE TEXT	B CHOOSE A STRONG VERB	C ADD A BIG FINISH
<p>Begin by identifying the piece of text you will be summarizing. Include the complete title and the author's full name.</p>	<p>Attach a strong verb. Notice that the verb "to be" is not on this list.</p> <p>For example: advises, compares, contrasts, describes, explains, identifies, illustrates, presents, provides, recommends, suggests, teaches</p>	<p>Think about the main idea of the text that you read. Ask yourself what it is mostly about. Write the main idea as a phrase and attach it to the end of the topic sentence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main idea? • The big idea? • The theme? • The moral?
<p>Cooking Tips for Teens by Chuck Roast...</p>	<p>describes frying, braising...</p>	<p>and many other oven and stove techniques...</p>

Use for:

- Writing a summary paragraph
- All content area classrooms