

Gist Pointers

1 Identify **who** or **what** the section is mostly about.

Who or what is
mentioned frequently?

Count pronouns!

Are any words or phrases
emphasized?

bolded, *italicized*, underlined,
highlighted, large font, **different color**

Do the **text features**
give me clues?

headings, pictures with captions,
graphs, charts, tables, maps

2 Identify the most important information about the **who** or **what**.

Are any ideas
repeated?

Are any phrases or sentences
emphasized?

bolded, *italicized*, underlined,
highlighted, large font, **different color**

Do the **text features**
give me clues?

headings, pictures with captions,
graphs, charts, tables, maps

3 Develop a Gist Statement that is **about 10** words.

Is the Gist Statement
paraphrased?

written in your own words &
not copied from the text

Is the Gist Statement
about 10 words?

between 8 and 13 words

Is the Gist Statement written
in **one complete sentence?**

one complete statement with
capitalization at the beginning and
punctuation at the end

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