

Get the Gist

Reading Module

Student Booklet

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SB#1: Practice—Passage and Gist Log

Should the Penny Be Retired?

Some people defend the use of the penny.

Does it still make sense to keep the penny when so many more purchases are made today with credit cards, and the cost to make coins has increased? The answer, for a number of reasons, is definitely "yes."

First, people benefit from having a low-value coin. The penny helps keep high prices in check. The alternative to the penny is rounding costs to the nearest nickel. But that will make goods and services more expensive: Since the objective of any business is to maximize profits, most prices would be rounded up—and that would hurt people every time they shop.

Adapted from: Weller, Mark. "Should the Penny Be Retired?" *The New York Times Upfront*. Vol. 143. 9 May 2011.

Gist Log

Paragraph #	"Who" or "what" is this paragraph about?	What was the <i>most important</i> information about the "who" or "what"?	Use the information in columns 2 and 3 to write a gist statement containing about 10 or fewer words.
1			
2			

SB#2: Practice (cont.)—Passage and Gist Log

Complete the following Gist Log for a passage provided by your teacher.

Gist Log

Paragraph #	“Who” or “what” is this paragraph about?	What was the <i>most important</i> information about the “who” or “what”?	Use the information in columns 2 and 3 to write a gist statement containing about 10 or fewer words.
1			
2			

Scoring:	
	Points earned (circle one):
Part 1	0 1 2
All parts of Gist Log	0 2 4 6
Total points (out of 8):	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>

Name: _____

Date: _____

SB#3: Independent Practice

Part 1: Review the Strategy

1. What is a “gist statement”? _____
2. Why is it important to summarize small sections of text as you read?

Part 2: Apply the Strategy

Directions: Read the following paragraph and complete the Gist Log.

Have Youth Sports Become Too Intense?

The time and energy youth sports require—along with injuries—are on the rise.

It's not just adults who think youth sports have become too intense in recent years. A lot of kids think so too. In 2006, the Minnesota Youth Soccer Association asked young players about behavior they had observed at sports games. Specifically, kids were asked about how the adults—parents, coaches, and fans—were behaving. More than a third said they had been yelled at or teased by a fan; 15 percent said their parents get angry when they play poorly.

Adapted from: Hyman, Mark. “Have Youth Sports Become Too Intense?” *The New York Times Upfront*. Vol. 143. 21 Feb. 2011.

SB#3: Independent Practice (cont.)

Gist Log

"Who" or "what" is this paragraph about?	What was the <i>most important</i> information about the "who" or "what"?	Use the information in columns 1 and 2 to write a gist statement containing about 10 or fewer words.