

Two-Part Text Support Answer Key

Sample Response

Main Idea:

Coral reefs are vital yet vulnerable ecosystems that need protection and care.

Supporting Evidence 1:

"Pollution, rising ocean temperatures, and careless tourism can damage or even kill coral."

Supporting Evidence 2:

"Scientists are working to restore damaged reefs by growing new coral in special underwater nurseries."

Explanation:

Both sentences show that coral reefs are in danger but can recover with human help. The first sentence explains what threatens them, while the second shows efforts to fix the damage. Together, they emphasize how reefs need both awareness and action to survive.

Teaching Tips:

- Model how to identify a main idea by asking: "What is this passage mostly saying about coral reefs?"
- Demonstrate how to find a first piece of evidence, then challenge students to find another that supports it from a different paragraph.
- Emphasize that strong readers "prove" ideas with more than one piece of text-based evidence.

Differentiation Ideas:

- *Struggling readers:* Provide sentence frames like "Both sentences show that..." or highlight one sentence and have them locate another similar one.
- *Advanced learners:* Ask students to find a **third** supporting sentence or connect their evidence to a broader theme (e.g., environmental protection).