

Pick The Central Message Answer Key

- **Passage 1 → C (A shared effort can provide both food and stronger relationships.)**
 - While A (hard work) might seem tempting, the true focus is on community and connection.
- **Passage 2 → E (Sometimes unexpected help from others solves a problem.)**
 - Students may confuse with A (practice/perseverance), but this passage highlights the stranger's assistance.
- **Passage 3 → B (A group can succeed when every member has a role.)**
 - Ant teamwork is the central idea. A (hard work) is related but doesn't capture the collective responsibility.
- **Passage 4 → D (A forgotten place can come alive again when people return to it.)**
 - Students might pick A (practice), but the passage is about renewal and rediscovery, not effort alone.

Teacher Note:

- The distractor **A** is written to feel “close” to multiple passages (garden teamwork, ant work, or practicing soccer in earlier examples). Use this to remind students that **details are not the same as the central idea**.