

Name: _____ Date: _____

Central Ideas and Details

A central idea of a text is one of the main points the author is making.

(Sometimes a central idea is called a main idea.)

A central idea can always be supported with details from the text.

Directions: Follow the prompts below to explore the central ideas and supporting details in "Island of Sorrow."

1. Reread the section "A Unique Place." Which quote below BEST expresses the central idea of this section?

- Ⓐ "Puerto Rico . . . has long been famous for its beauty and vibrancy." (p. 6)
- Ⓑ "You'll hear Spanish spoken in every part of the island—it's the primary language." (p. 6)
- Ⓒ "It's a place where you can eat mouthwatering *tostones* and *empanadas* . . ." (p. 6)
- Ⓓ "The Caribbean Sea is prone to turbulent weather." (p. 6)

2. Read the central idea of the section "The Hurricane's Wrath," stated in the box below. Then read the lines from the article listed under it. Which detail does NOT support the central idea?

Central Idea:
Hurricane Maria was extremely powerful and destructive.

- Ⓐ "Large chunks of mud careened down from the mountains, burying cars and smashing homes." (p. 7)
- Ⓑ "They stocked up on water, food, and gas for their car." (p. 6)
- Ⓒ "Tree trunks were launched through the air like missiles." (p. 7)
- Ⓓ "The deluge swelled rivers and canals, sending water gushing into neighborhoods and bursting a dam." (p. 7)

I chose _____ because _____

3. Read the details from the section "State of Crisis" listed below. In the box, write a central idea that these details support.

Central Idea:

Detail 1: "At the time of the hurricane, Puerto Rico was bankrupt, its economy failing." (p. 7)

Detail 2: "Much of the island's infrastructure was ancient and in disrepair." (p. 7)

Detail 3: "The power grid—that is, the network of power plants that produce electricity and all the power lines that carry that electricity to people—hadn't been upgraded in decades." (p. 7)

4. Consider the central idea of the whole article that is written below. We wrote one detail from the article that supports this idea. Write two more supporting details in the spaces provided.

Central Idea:

Salvador Gómez-Colón is determined and compassionate.

Supporting detail 1:

"Even when his school reopened a few weeks after the hurricane, he kept working—sending texts and making calls, dealing with constant interruptions in power and cell service." (pp. 8-9)

Supporting detail 2:

Supporting detail 3: