



Tommy Prince

• Reading Comprehension •

Activity **1** Stop and Think

Read the paragraphs.
Stop and think as you read.

Good readers are active readers.

Good readers stop and think about what they are reading. Active reading helps readers understand the ideas.

Tommy's job is to spy on the Germans. One night, Tommy enters an empty farmhouse. He sets up a phone line. Tommy spends three days in the farmhouse. He phones his unit. Tommy reports on the Germans.

Stop and think: What kinds of things do you think Tommy reports about the Germans?

On the third day, the phone line stops working. Tommy has a plan. He pretends to be a farmer. He walks outside. The Germans can see Tommy. He bends down as if to tie his shoelace. Instead, he fixes the phone line.

Stop and think: Imagine you are Tommy. How do you feel about your plan?



Activity 2 Main Idea and Details



Read the details.

Circle the correct main idea.

The first one is an example.

Good readers can find the main idea and details.

The main idea is the important idea. The details support the main idea.

The details help you understand and remember the main idea.

Details	Main Idea
The Devil's Brigade carries out secret missions. They know how to fight. They know how to live off the land.	(a) The Devil's Brigade keeps secrets. (b) The Devil's Brigade is a special unit.
Tommy learns to shoot a gun with skill. Tommy learns to be silent in the woods. Tommy is a good paratrooper.	1 (a) Tommy has many skills. (b) Tommy is a good hunter.
Tommy does not get the same benefits as white veterans. Tommy finds it hard to get steady work. Indian veterans are not treated like heroes.	2 (a) Indian veterans do not have skills. (b) Indian veterans are treated like second-class citizens.

Activity 3 Invisible Messages



Read the writer's words.

Figure out the invisible message.

Writers do not always explain everything.

Sometimes, writers expect readers to read between the lines. Writers expect readers to figure out the invisible messages.

The writer's words	The invisible message
Tommy's stomach is in a knot.	Tommy is nervous. Tommy is afraid.
1. Tommy goes behind German lines like a ghost in the night.	
2. Tommy receives eight medals.	

Activity 4 Fact and Opinion



Read the sentences.

Write (F) for fact or (O) for opinion.

- Tommy serves in two wars. _____
Tommy loves war. _____
- In 1942, Tommy goes to parachute school. _____
Tommy is a good paratrooper. _____
- Tommy is a forgotten man. _____
Tommy lives at the Winnipeg Salvation Army. _____

Good readers know the difference between facts and opinions.

Facts can be proven.

Opinions are personal beliefs.

Activity 5 The Table of Contents



Read each question.

Look at the Contents page in your book.

Which chapter has the answer to the question?

Write the name of the chapter.

Find the answer to the question. Write the answer.

Good readers use the Table of Contents.

The Table of Contents helps readers find information quickly.

Question	Chapter	Answer
When is Tommy born?	Early Years	In 1915
1. Why does Tommy join the Army?		
2. How long does the Korean War last?		
3. How many people go to Tommy's funeral?		

Activity 6 Make a Connection

Read the idea from the story.
Make a connection to your life.

Idea

Tommy knows stories about
his great-great grandfather.



Your Life

Who are the elders in your family?

What stories do you know
about those elders?

How did you learn those stories?

Reading is more than understanding
the ideas on a page.

Good readers connect the ideas
to their lives.



© BigStockPhoto / oilly2

• Writing •

Activity 1 Write Your Ideas

Complete these paragraphs about family stories.
Use your ideas from Activity 6.

Your teacher will help you with spelling.

Good writers know that
writing is a process.

Good writers think of ideas
before they write.

Good writers check their writing.

Paragraph 1

_____ is an elder in my family. I honour him/
her because _____.
_____. I learned about him/her _____.
_____.

Paragraph 2

I want family members to remember me for _____.
_____. I want them to know that I _____.
_____. I hope they _____.
_____.

Read each paragraph out loud.

Which paragraph do you like better?

Copy the paragraph on the lines.

Check for capital letters and end punctuation.

Activity 2 Organize Ideas



Look at the idea map.

What is the topic of the idea map?

What are the 3 main ideas?

Add these details to the idea map.

Put the number in the correct box.

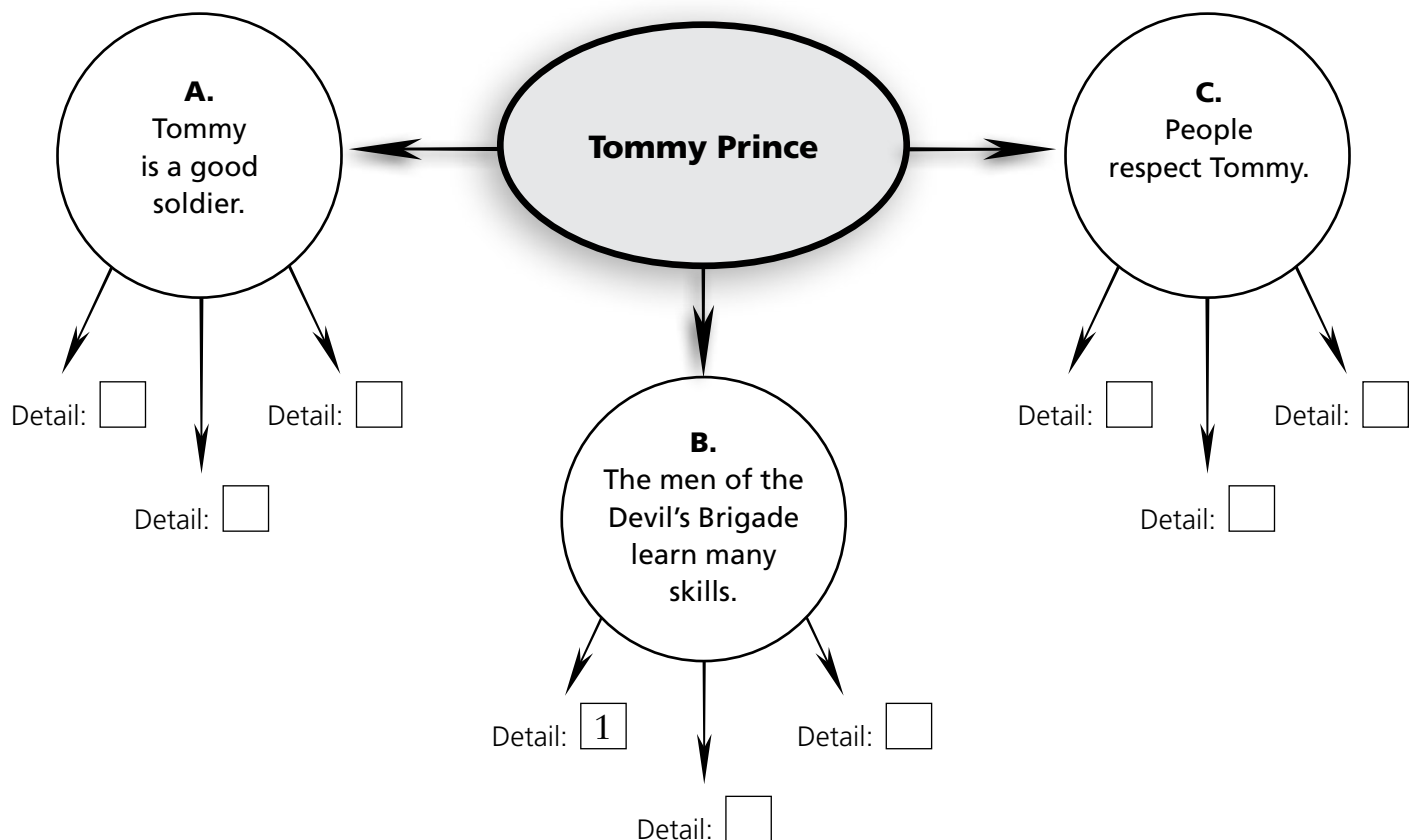
The first one is an example.

Good writers know that writing is a process.

Good writers organize their ideas before they write.

One way to organize ideas is to use a main idea and details.

- ✓ 1. They learn how to use all kinds of weapons.
2. The Army promotes Tommy to Sergeant.
3. Tommy and his unit capture 1,000 German soldiers.
4. Five hundred people go to Tommy's funeral.
5. Tommy wins three medals in the Korean War.
6. They know how to live off the land.
7. There is a monument of Tommy in Winnipeg.
8. People from all walks of life pay their respects to Tommy.
9. They learn to climb mountains.



Choose details from the idea map to complete the paragraphs.
Copy the details into the paragraphs.

Paragraph A

Tommy is a good soldier. The Army promotes Tommy to _____ .
Tommy and his unit capture _____
_____. Tommy wins _____ .

Paragraph B

The men of the Devil's Brigade learn many skills. They learn to use _____
_____. They know how to _____
_____. They learn to _____
_____ .

Paragraph C

People respect Tommy. Five hundred people _____ .
There is a _____ in Winnipeg.
People from all walks of life _____ to Tommy.

Activity 3 Use Capital Letters and Punctuation



Read these sentences.

Add capital letters and end punctuation.

1. tommy grows up on brokenhead reserve
2. tommy fights in germany and korea
3. does he fight in italy
4. does he fight with american soldiers
5. the war ends on september 2, 1945
6. tommy is honoured in winnipeg

In this activity...

use capital letters

at the beginning of a sentence,
with the names of groups of people,
with names of people and places, and
with dates.

use punctuation

at the end of a sentence.

• Word Attack Skills •

Activity

1

Predict the Word



Complete each paragraph.

Use the pictures to predict the word.

Readers see new words all the time.
They need to decode the new words.

Good readers decode words
in different ways.

They use pictures to predict words.
They use meaning clues to predict words.

These are two ways to decode words.



© Library of Congress/LC-USZ62-133499

Paragraph 1

This family lives in a _____ .



© Battlefield Historian/BHC 050073

Paragraph 2

The _____ walk
to a prison camp.

Complete each paragraph.

Use meaning clues to predict the word.

3. Tommy learns to _____ animals.
4. Tommy _____ from a plane.
5. The wars _____ his body and his mind.

Activity 2 Find Common Patterns

Look at each word in the box.

Each word has a common pattern.

Group the words under the correct pattern.

<i>trap</i> ✓	<i>might</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>mine</i>
<i>map</i>	<i>light</i>	<i>fine</i>	<i>night</i>
<i>fight</i>	<i>nine</i>	<i>lap</i>	<i>nap</i>

Good readers look for
common patterns in words.

This is another way to decode words.

ap

ight

ine

trap

Read the sentences in the box.

Circle the words that have one of these patterns:

ap ight ine

Many words have common patterns.

The patterns look and sound the same.

Find the Common Patterns



1. Tommy learns to trap.
2. His map is animal tracks.
3. He wants to fight.
4. The night is silent.
5. The phone line stops working.
6. Tommy is a fine soldier.

Activity

3

Divide and Conquer



Read these words.

Look for common endings.

Write the base word on the line.

stands stand

freely free

1. learns _____

2. woods _____

3. teaches _____

4. training _____

5. years _____

6. fixes _____

7. roads _____

8. jumps _____

Many words have a base word with a common ending.

Good readers look for base words and common endings

This is another way to decode words.

9. hides _____

10. quickly _____

11. willing _____

12. treated _____

13. starts _____

14. quits _____

15. drinking _____

16. holds _____

Read each sentence out loud.

Circle the words with common endings.

17. Tommy learns to be silent in the woods.

18. His father teaches him well.

19. Tommy is in training for two years.

20. He fixes roads.

21. He jumps and hides quickly.

22. Tommy is willing to die for Canada.

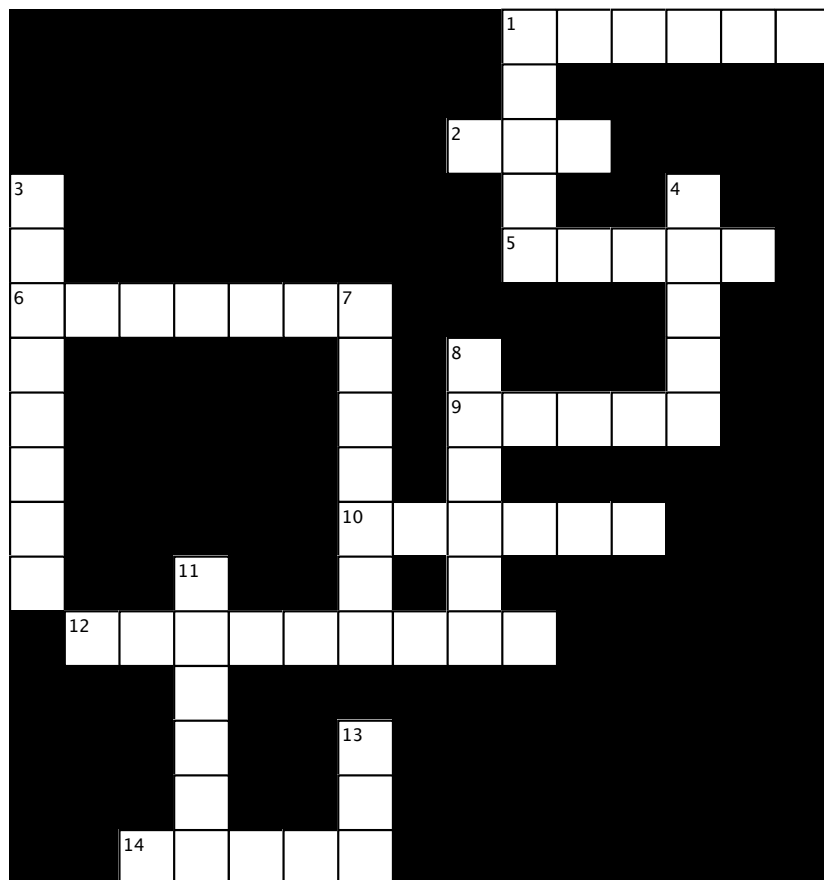
23. He is not treated like a hero.

24. Tommy starts to drink.

25. He quits drinking.

• Crossword •

Tommy Prince



Crossword Clues

All the answers to the clues are from Tommy Prince's biography.

ACROSS

1. very, very quiet
2. the number that comes after nine
5. you use this to call somebody
6. you hunt these for food
9. opposite of full
10. full of fear
12. you need this when you jump out of an airplane
14. opposite of teach

DOWN

1. you do this at night when you are tired
3. feeling very, very hungry
4. opposite of friend
7. where food goes after you swallow it
8. something you don't tell anybody
11. this helps you cross a river
13. you can shoot with this

Tommy Prince



1. **Main Idea and Details:** (1) a (2) b
2. **Invisible Messages*:** (1) Tommy makes no noise in the night. The Germans cannot see Tommy. (2) Tommy is a good soldier.
3. **Fact and Opinion:** (1) F/O (2) F/O (3) O/F
4. **Table of Contents:** (1) Tommy Joins the Army / He wants to fight for his county. (2) The Korean War / from 1950 to 1953; three years (3) A Hero Dies / five hundred
5. **Organize Ideas:** Circle A: Details 2, 3, 5 Circle B: Details 1, 6, 9 Circle C: Details 4, 7, 8
6. **Use Capital Letters and Punctuation:** (1) Tommy grows up on Brokenhead Reserve. (2) Tommy fights in Germany and Korea. (3) Does he fight in Italy? (4) Does he fight with American soldiers? (5) The war ends on September 2, 1945. (6) Tommy is honoured in Winnipeg.
7. **Predict the Word*:** (1) tent (2) men; prisoners; Germans; soldiers (3) hunt; trap; shoot (4) jumps (5) wound; affect; hurt
8. **Find Common Patterns:** (1) trap (2) map (3) fight (4) night (5) line (6) fine
9. **Divide and Conquer:** (1) learn (2) wood (3) teach (4) train (5) year (6) fix (7) road (8) jump (9) hide (10) quick (11) will (12) treat (13) start (14) quit (15) drink (16) hold (17) learns / woods (18) teaches (19) training / years (20) fixes / roads (21) jumps / hides / quickly (22) willing (23) treated (24) starts (25) quits / drinking

*Accept any answer that makes sense.

Crossword Solution

