

## PSAT Reading Practice Test 2: Key Ideas and Details

**Read the following paragraph and answer questions 1-3.**

It is challenging to grow tomatoes in a cool, wet climate with a short growing season. In this kind of marginal area, it is rarely successful to sow seeds directly in the garden. It is better to plant seeds in pots indoors, or to buy plant starts at a nursery. If possible, select seed varieties from local seed companies. These are more likely than national brands to carry tomato varieties that fruit quickly. Plant your starts outdoors only after your warm season begins in earnest. Water the plants regularly all summer, and watch the fall forecasts and harvest as many tomatoes as possible before the cool and rain return to spoil the crop.

**1. Which phrase most accurately states the topic of this paragraph?**

- A. Growing tomatoes from seed
- B. Gardening in a cool, wet climate
- C. Gardening with local seed varieties
- D. Growing tomatoes in a cool, wet climate

**2. Which sentence best summarizes the main idea of this paragraph?**

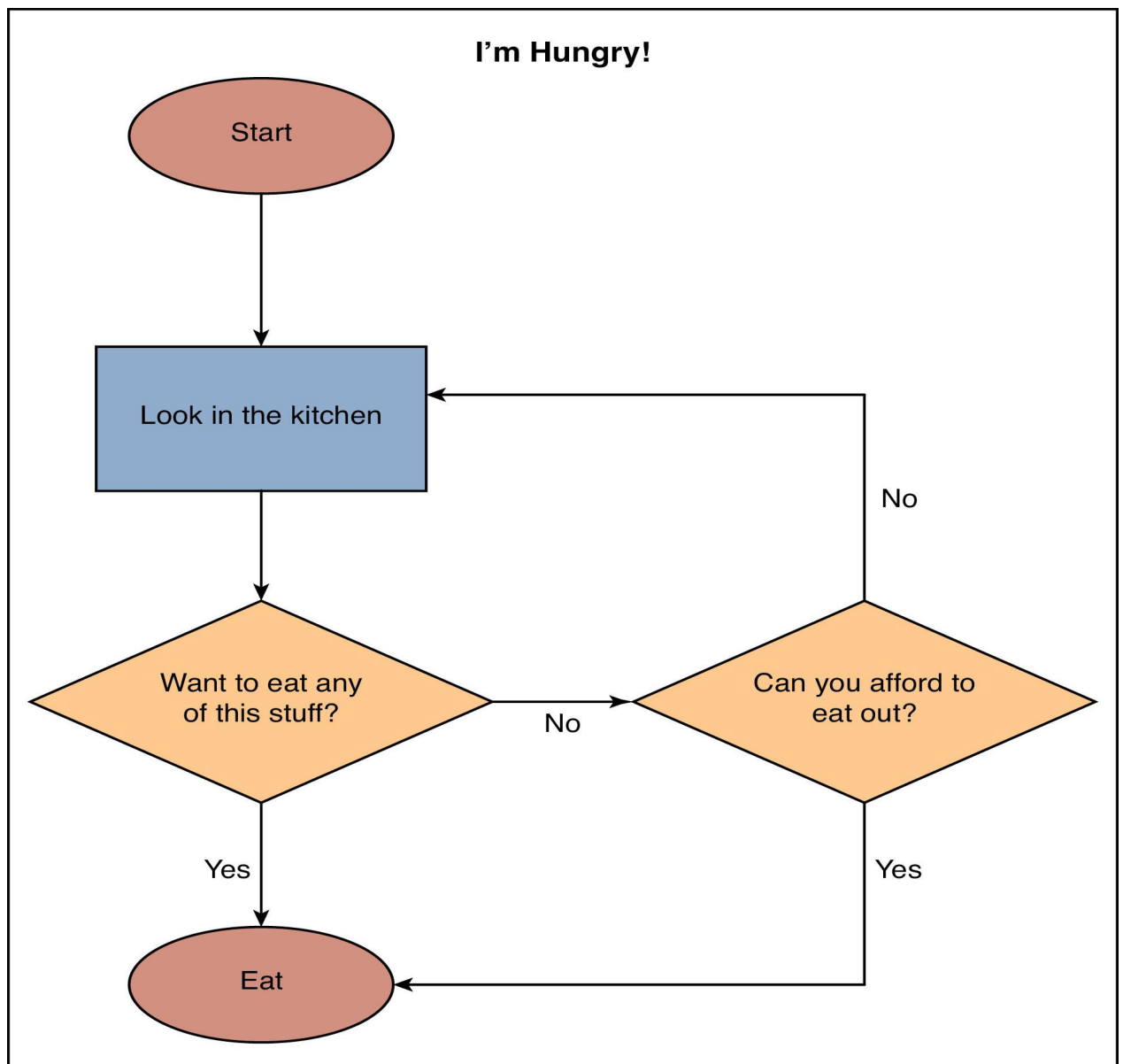
- A. Gardeners should select tomato varieties that bear fruit quickly.
- B. Gardeners should not try to grow tomatoes in cool, wet climates.
- C. Gardeners must follow a special process to grow tomatoes in cool, wet climates.
- D. Gardeners should harvest tomatoes before the warm weather of summer is over.

**3. How does the supporting detail about local seed companies help develop the main idea?**

- A. It doesn't develop the main idea; this sentence is off-topic.

- B. It provides readers with a way to get gardening advice specific to their area.
- C. It gives gardeners a way to buy plants instead of sowing seeds directly themselves.
- D. It explains how to find plant varieties that are successful in a short growing season.

**Study the flowchart below and answer questions 4-5.**



**4. What is the first thing the chart asks you to do if you are hungry?**

- A. Eat.
- B. Look in the kitchen.

- C. Consider whether you can afford to eat out.
- D. Consider whether you want to eat what you have.

**5. According to the flowchart, what do you need to do if you cannot afford to eat out?**

- A. Grow a garden.
- B. Get a better job.
- C. Buy a recipe book.
- D. Find food in the kitchen.

**6. Which of the following statements accurately describes a summary?**

- A. A summary makes a judgment about the original text.
- B. A summary leaves out the main idea of the original text.
- C. A summary restates implicit ideas from the original text.
- D. A summary copies words and phrases from the original text.

**7. Which of the following is an example of a primary source?**

- A. An encyclopedia
- B. A biography
- C. A guidebook
- D. An interview

**8. Readers make inferences when they:**

- A. restate the main idea of a text in different words.
- B. differentiate between primary and secondary sources.
- C. determine that a text is not a credible source of information.
- D. use clues in the text to help them deduce implicit information.

**9. Which of the following is a secondary source?**

- A. The diary of Anne Frank
- B. A biography of Anne Frank

- C. A study guide on the diary of Anne Frank
- D. An encyclopedia article about Anne Frank

#### ANSWER KEY

1. **D.** This paragraph focuses on one specific gardening topic—growing tomatoes in a cool, wet climate. **See Lesson: Main Ideas, Topic Sentences, and Supporting Details.**
2. **C.** This paragraph describes how gardeners in cool, wet climates can successfully grow tomatoes. **See Lesson: Main Ideas, Topic Sentences, and Supporting Details.**
3. **D.** The supporting detail develops the main idea by focusing on plant varieties that can be successful in a particular kind of climate. **See Lesson: Main Ideas, Topic Sentences, and Supporting Details.**
4. **B.** There is only one arrow leading from the start box, and it goes to the “look in the kitchen” box. **See Lesson: Summarizing Text and Using Text Features.**
5. **D.** The arrow that is labeled “No” directs readers to “Look in the kitchen.” **See Lesson: Summarizing Text and Using Text Features.**
6. **C.** A summary may restate implicit ideas as long as they are clearly indicated in the original text. **See Lesson: Summarizing Text and Using Text Features.**
7. **D.** Primary sources are written by people who witnessed the original creation or discovery of the information they present. An interview would be an example of a primary source. **See Lesson: Understanding Primary Sources, Making Inferences, and Drawing Conclusions.**

**8. D.** Readers make inferences when they deduce implicit information in a text. **See Lesson: Understanding Primary Sources, Making Inferences, and Drawing Conclusions.**

**9. B.** A biography of Anne Frank would be a historical or analytical account that added insight on the topic. This makes it a secondary source. **See Lesson: Understanding Primary Sources, Making Inferences, and Drawing Conclusions.**

## PSAT Resource Links

**PSAT Online Practice Tests:** <https://www.crackpsat.net/psat/>

❖ PSAT Reading Practice Tests:

<https://www.crackpsat.net/psat/reading/>

❖ PSAT Writing and Language Tests:

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