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# FINDING CENTRAL IDEAS AND LITERARY DEVICES

- ▶ **READ THE ARTICLE COMPLETELY!**
- ▶ **PAY ATTENTION TO THE TITLE**
- ▶ **NOTICE THE TOPIC SENTENCES**
- ▶ **PAY ATTENTION TO THE CONCLUSION**
- ▶ **WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT LINE OF THE PIECE?**
- ▶ **DON'T CONFUSE AN EXAMPLE WITH THE MAIN IDEA**

- ▶ **LOOK FOR EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS THE CENTRAL IDEA, USUALLY THERE IS A DEVICE USED TO HELP ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT.**
- ▶ **ASK YOURSELF WHAT IS THE MOST PERSUASIVE PART OF THE ARTICLE**
- ▶ **REMEMBER ETHOS, LOGOS, PATHOS!**
- ▶ **ETHOS – EXPERIENCE, EXPERTISE**
- ▶ **LOGOS – LOGIC, STATISTICS, CONNECTIONS, “IF...THEN”, CAUSE AND EFFECT**
- ▶ **PATHOS – EMOTIONS**