Summarising the main ideas of a text

Read each text carefully. Answer the questions about the main ideas underneath each one.

Frowning, Bess held her wrist to the moonlight to peer at her watch. Ten minutes had become twenty. So what? It wouldn't feel so long if it was daylight. It wouldn't feel so long in a crowded noisy bar. Here in the eerie shadows of the temple ruins it was easy to get spooked, that was all.

OK. She was starting to get cross now. Telling her he'd be 'a bit late' didn't give him the right to leave her standing here in the darkness for...thirty minutes now! The shifting shadows made a monster out of everything. Forty seven minutes! It was an absolute joke. Time to go.

- 1. What is the **main** idea in this text? Circle one.
- -The temple was dark and scary
- Bess had been waiting a long time
- -Bess had been waiting a short time
- -Bess wanted to leave

Text 2

Working dogs are reliable and work hard. Small dogs can be very good companions and are often very defensive towards their owners. Large dogs are usually extremely docile and soft hearted, although this isn't always the case. Small dogs can be placid, although some are aggressive.

- 2. What is the **main** idea in this text? Circle one
- Working dogs are reliable
- -All dogs are different
- -Small dogs can be good pets
- 3. Look up and explain the meaning of the words 'docile' and 'placid'. Are they synonyms? What is different about the words?