

Supporting Details

When you include **supporting details** in your writing, keep your main idea and purpose in mind. Each detail should give more information about the main idea and help you accomplish your purpose. For example, if you want to describe the way something looks or feels, your supporting details should be vivid descriptions. If your purpose is to inform your reader, your supporting details should be facts.

Directions Write the sentence from each paragraph that is not a supporting detail.

1. Being a member of our community swim team requires hard work. Swimming is fun for the members. Team members must train five days each week. They must swim for one hour each day.

Swimming is fun for the members.

2. Participating in the diving competition was a dream come true. I stood high atop the diving board, feeling strong and confident. Then I decided that I did not want to dive. I knew I could perform one of my best dives ever, even though dozens of people were watching.

Then I decided that I did not want to dive.

Directions Write one supporting detail for each main idea. **Possible answers:**

3. Taking my first swimming lesson was an interesting experience.

I found that swimming came as naturally to me as to a fish in the ocean.

4. Everyone should learn to swim at a young age.

Being around swimming pools, lakes, or oceans is dangerous for people who do not know how to swim.