

Including Important Details

When you write a research report, use the facts in your outline. Keep your topic, audience, and purpose in mind. Then **include the important details** about your topic.

Directions The information below is part of an outline on the hua mei bird. The paragraph that follows it adds unimportant details to the information in the outline. Draw a line through the sentences that have unimportant details.

- 1. **B.** Appearance
 - 1. 4–5 in. long
 - 2. Grayish-yellow with black speckles
 - 3. White marks above eyes
- C. Special Features
 - 1. Fighting birds
 - 2. Can be taught to sing
 - 3. Name means “painted eyebrows”

The hua mei bird is 4 or 5 inches long. ~~Canaries are much more colorful than this bird.~~ It is grayish-yellow with black speckles and unusual white marks above its eyes. These marks led to the bird’s name, which is Chinese for “painted eyebrows.” The hua mei is a fighting bird. ~~I prefer peaceful birds.~~ People have taught the hua mei bird to sing. ~~Its melody is probably beautiful.~~

Directions Write sentences about the parrot based on the following details.

- 1. 3 inches to 3 ft. long
- 2. Brightly colored
- 3. thick, hooked bill

Possible answer: Parrots can be from three inches to three feet long. They are brightly colored and have thick, hooked bills.
