

A **main idea** is the important or main point that a writer makes in an article or a story. The writer often uses **details** to **support** their thinking or the main idea.

If the Shoe Fits

Lily couldn't wait to go shoe shopping with her mom. School was about to begin, and Mom said Lily had grown out of her old shoes. When they arrived at the shoe store in the mall, Lily raced over to the shelves of new shoes. Shoes of every size, shape, and color stretched from one end of the store to the other. She instantly recognized the shoes her friends had bought just a few days ago. It was hard to miss neon pink tennis shoes with bright yellow laces! "You should buy them too," they'd urged. "Then we'd all be alike!"

Lily slipped off her shoes and tried on a pair. She wanted to like them so that she'd be like her friends, but as she walked around, she wasn't sure she really wanted bright pink tennis shoes. And when it came down to it, they didn't feel very comfortable either. One shoe mashed her little toe, and the other shoe slipped up and down on her heel—step, slide, step, slide, step, slide. She couldn't imagine doing that all day, and she knew all that sliding around would only lead to a blister.

Soon, another pair of tennis shoes caught her eye. The color reminded her of red licorice—her favorite candy—and when she laced them up, the springy soles made her feel as if she were walking on clouds. They fit so well that she couldn't even feel them on her feet. They weren't like the pink shoes at all.

Lily chose the red pair even though she wouldn't have the same shoes as her friends. It only made sense to be true to herself, since the shoes would be on *her* feet, not theirs. She couldn't wait to show her friends her new shoes. "They aren't pink, but they are new, just like my friends' shoes," Lily thought with a laugh.

Supporting Details

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Main Idea