

Name: _____ Number: _____ Date: _____

A **summary** is a short or brief statement that tells about the main character(s) and the **most important events** of a story. The summary is **MUCH shorter** than the story itself.

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.

Somebody wanted

but

so

Summary

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The Milkmaid & Her Pail

On a little farm near a little village lived a milkmaid named Nell. Early one morning Nell milked the cows, as she did every day. She was surprised to see, however, that they gave her more milk than usual. Her pail contained twice as much warm, frothy liquid as it did yesterday! Nell balanced the pail on her head and began her daily walk to the village.

"So much milk!" Nell thought with a smile. "I will make lots of money selling this milk today. The first thing I will buy is three dozen eggs." Now, Nell did not mean eggs to take home and scramble. No, she meant eggs that would hatch into chicks and then grow into chickens.

"Let's see," she thought, counting on her fingers. "If I have thirty-six eggs, I'll have thirty-six chickens, and fine chickens they will be! I will feed them the best grain so that they grow nice and fat, and then I will take the chickens to the butcher, who will pay me handsomely for my plump birds."

Nell grinned as she walked along. She could hear the milk sloshing in the pail, and the sound was like the jingle of coins.

"With the money I earn from my chickens, I will buy emerald green fabric and satin ribbons to make a gown. All the girls will envy me when I arrive at the dance in my gorgeous dress, and all the fellows will ask for my hand in marriage."

Nell could picture the scene. There she would be, surrounded by the young men of the village, who would be so stunned by her beauty that they would practically fall over each other trying to impress her.

"Well, I'm not so easily won!" Nell said aloud, tossing her head. As she did, the pail wobbled and then fell. The milk was now a white puddle, sinking rapidly into the dirt. And just like that, the chickens, the dress, the dance, and the suitors disappeared.

Nell picked up her empty pail and turned to go home. "That's what I get for counting my chickens before they hatch," she sighed.

Somebody wanted	but	so

Summary

Which answer choice would be the BEST one to choose? _____
Go back and highlight text clues that would support this answer.