

# DISNEYLAND'S FIRST DAY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: Read the paragraph and find the main idea. Write down three supporting details and then summarize the paragraph.*

Disneyland, in Anaheim California, is a popular tourist attraction with about 15 million visitors each year. The "Happiest Place on Earth" however, was not so happy on the first day it opened back in July of 1955. That day is still known as "Black Sunday" as it was perhaps the darkest day in Disneyland's history. A number of unexpected things happened to make it such an unsuccessful first showing. For example, the nearby freeway had a seven mile traffic jam and police declared it the worst mess they had ever seen. Fantasyland had to close temporarily due to a gas leak. Many of the rides and attractions broke down with the strain of so many guests. Main Street's asphalted streets softened from the heat, causing women's high heels to get stuck in the gooey tar. A local plumber's strike caused a shortage of plumbers and although the restrooms were finished, none of the drinking fountains were ready. Although Disneyland's opening day was disastrous, Walt Disney and his crew learned from the experience and eventually turned things around to make it a success.



Main Idea:

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Supporting Details:

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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Summary:

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