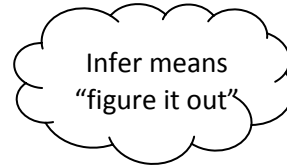


RD 115 **Week 4** Lecture Guide:
Formulating an Implied Main Idea

I. How to find the **Author's Main Idea** when it is **NOT STATED?**

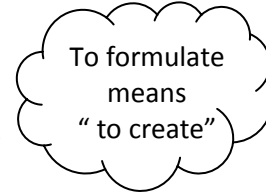
- Often there is **no** Stated Main Idea
- Reader must **infer / deduce** the Main Idea
- That makes it the **Implied Main Idea**



- Then, the reader must **formulate** the Main Idea

- Just follow these steps:

1. Find the **topic** (*who* or *what* is this paragraph about)?
2. **Infer** (figure out) the **Main Idea**
3. Ask: *What is the **single most important thing** the author wants me to infer about the topic?*
4. Use information from the paragraph to **formulate** (create) the **Main Idea**



Formulating a Main Idea May Involve:

1. Finding a sentence that *almost* states the Main Idea and just **adding a word or two**
2. **Combining two sentences**, each of which expresses part of the Main Idea
3. Summarizing important information and **creating a brand-new sentence**

II. **The Overall Main Idea**

When the reader formulates the Main Idea of an entire passage, that is the **Overall Main Idea (OMI)**.

In-class practice: Selection 5-1: "Identity Theft: You Are at Risk," p. 284-288