

## About Point With About Point Notetaking

### What is About Point and why is it important?

About Point (Martin et al., 1977) is a strategy that helps students construct and summarize the main ideas of a reading selection. The strategy helps students focus on the most important parts of the text, a necessary skill for comprehension.

### How can I use About Point with my students?

First, have students read one paragraph or a short section of text. Ask them to tell briefly what the topic is (the About). Then have students tell what the author wanted to say about the topic (the Point). Now, have students write a statement that combines the About and the Point. You will have to model this process several times and then guide students to do it independently.

For example, after reading a paragraph about lizards, students might respond in this way:

<b>About:</b>	lizards
<b>Point:</b>	use the sun to warm their bodies
<b>Statement:</b>	Lizards use the sun to warm their bodies.

### What is About Point Notetaking and why is it important?

About Point Notetaking (Carr, 2000) extends About Point to help students construct and summarize the main ideas and important details of a reading selection.

### How can I use About Point Notetaking with my students?

After students have determined the About and Point of a selection, ask them to write a few details that the author used to explain or support his or her main idea. Students can use the information to study or write a summary of what they have learned.

Following is an example of About Point Notetaking for a history passage.

- About:** Immigrants  
**Point:** came from all over the world to live here  
**Details:** 1. A large number of immigrants came to America between 1900-1920.  
 2. Most immigrants came to America from Europe.  
 3. The immigrants brought with them their own culture and customs.

**Summary:** Immigrants came from all over the world to live here. A large number of immigrants came to America from 1900-1920. Most immigrants came to America from Europe. The immigrants brought with them their own culture and customs.



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

## *About Point*

<p><b>About:</b></p> <p><b>Point:</b></p>	<p><b>Statement:</b></p>



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

## About Point Notetaking

**About:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Point:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Details:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**About:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Point:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Details:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**About:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Point:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Details:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

