

Underline the *sentence that expresses the main idea* in the following paragraph; remember that the main idea may sometimes *not* be given the first sentence. Also, to support your identification of the main idea, list the *key points* of the paragraph that *support* the main idea.

The latest craze in the North American housing market is the condominium: an apartment that is bought instead of rented. Condominiums have advantages that are especially important to empty-nesters who are approaching retirement age: security, low maintenance, and moderate size. Nevertheless, such dwellings have not always been North Americans' first choice. For many years in the latter half of the Twentieth Century, ranch-style suburban homes with large gardens were most popular. And before that, solid downtown houses with easy access to city-centre amenities were at the top of the list. Each of those housing options was well adapted to the social and economic circumstances during a particular period of time, and each moved in and then out of fashion. Overall, it is plain that the housing market always changes in accord with differing demands from consumers.

Key points supporting the main idea:

Using the your notes on the main idea and supporting points, write a summary of the paragraph:
