

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Comparing Summaries and Fully Elaborated Main Events - 4



*Read each version of a main event about taking a rollercoaster ride.*

- 1.) I took a ride with my friend Melanie on a rollercoaster. It was exciting.
- 2.) Melanie and I waited in line to get on the Thunderbolt. Then we got to the front and then we got in and lowered the safety bar. After that the ride started slowly and then it got faster and faster. It was scary and we screamed. After that it was over and we got in line again.
- 3.) “Over there,” I said, pointing. Melanie’s eyes scanned the horizon of the amusement park and rested on a tangle of metal above the trees. “That’s it?” she asked. I nodded. “The Thunderbolt,” I answered, “the fastest rollercoaster in the east.” I grabbed Melanie by the arm and dragged her through the park. As we got closer to the Thunderbolt the ground seemed to shake. It was followed by a deafening roar, then a chorus of screams. Melanie turned around and I grabbed her by the bottom of her shirt. “Oh no you don’t,” I said. My heart began to race, and I could actually feel my pulse begin to quicken. I got behind Melanie, put both hands on her shoulders and pushed her through the crowd. The line for the Thunderbolt snaked all the way around the ride. Click, click, click.....you could hear the coaster cars climbing up the incline. Melanie closed her eyes and braced herself for the screams we knew would follow. Woooosh - we felt the wind from the force of the car zooming down the track. The line inched along. My palms began to get sweaty. Finally we were next! We climbed into the front of the car - nothing in front of us but the track. The attendant locked the cool metal safety bar with a heavy clank. We gripped the bar. Melanie’s knuckles were white, her eyes closed. “Here we go,” I said. We climbed up slowly, slowly...click, click, click... I exhaled, preparing for the big launch. Then - POW! We plunged, the wind yanked our hair straight back, and seemed to slam against our faces. My stomach seemed to be somewhere else entirely and I inhaled as slowly as I could to try and keep my lunch where it belonged. Then, yanked to the right - then quick - to the left, we lurched up the next incline. Melanie’s eyes were pressed shut. I screamed as we hurtled around a complete loop before stopping. The attendant pushed back the bar and helped us out. I poked Melanie with my elbow. “Again?” I asked? Her answer? She punched me on the arm and held her stomach. I guess I’d have to go alone.

**THINK ABOUT IT:** Which example is a fully elaborated event? Which example is a simple summary of a main event? Which example is a grocery list of actions? Which example is the most entertaining to read?