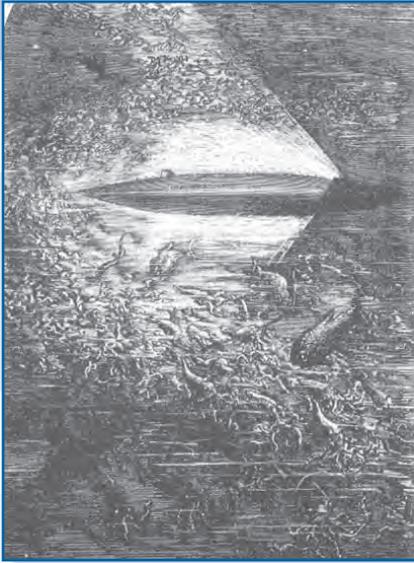


Finding the Main Idea



*Captain Nemo's submarine,
Nautilus*

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

by Jules Verne

Jules Verne wrote 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea in 1870. The narrator is Pierre Aronnax, a French marine biologist, who has been taken prisoner by Captain Nemo in his submarine called Nautilus. This passage describes the submarine's library.

Chapter X: The Man of the Seas

It was a library. High pieces of furniture, of black violet ebony inlaid with brass, supported upon their wide shelves a great number of books uniformly bound. They followed the shape of the room, terminating at the lower part in huge divans, covered with brown leather, which were curved, to afford the greatest comfort. Light movable desks, made to slide in and out at will, allowed one to rest one's book while reading. In the centre stood an immense table, covered with pamphlets, amongst which were some newspapers, already of old date. The electric light flooded everything; it was shed from four unpolished globes half sunk in the volutes of the ceiling. I looked with real admiration at this room, so ingeniously fitted up, and I could scarcely believe my eyes.

The Main Idea and Supporting Ideas

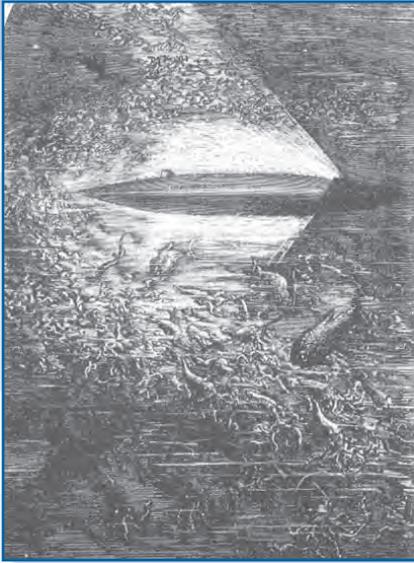
Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1. _____

2. _____

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The Main Idea and Supporting Ideas

Actual wording and supporting ideas will vary. Example of correct answers:

Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

The library was comfortable and well equipped.

Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1. **There were a many books on the shelves and newspapers to read.**

2. **The library had large, leather covered divans and reading desks to**

make a reader comfortable.