Directions for Get the GIST

Teachers can use the following steps when conducting the GIST strategy with any text:

1. **Prereading:** Have students predict the main point of the text by scanning the page(s) and getting the gist of the text. Record these predictions on the board.

   **Prompts:**
   - What do you think this text is going to be about? What makes you think so?
   - What do you think it is going to tell us about our topic? What makes you think so?

2. **Reading:** Have students read the assigned text to confirm and/or revise their predictions.

   **Prompts:**
   - What evidence supports your prediction?
   - What evidence does not support your prediction?

3. **Postreading:** Have students think about what they have read and make a final revision of the gist prediction they made before reading the text.

   **Prompts:**
   - What changes would you make?
   - What have you learned from this reading?

*Note: After the teacher has demonstrated this strategy a few times, students will be able to respond without the prompts, thus internalizing the process for independent use.*