

Name \_\_\_\_\_

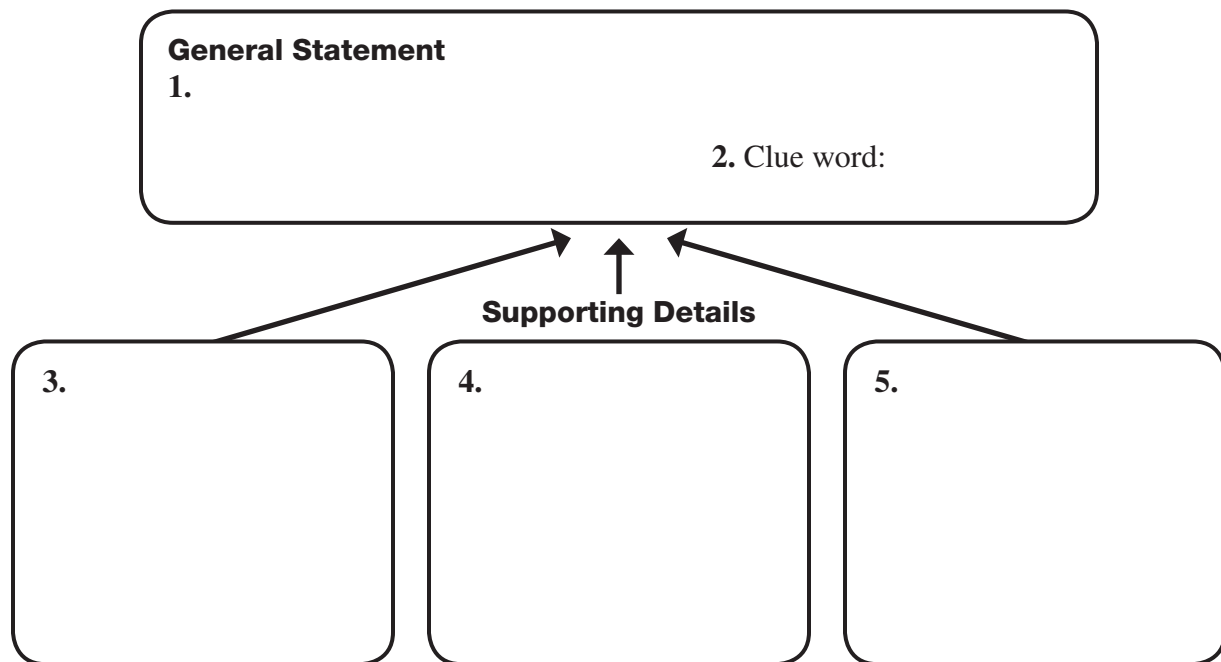
## Generalize

- An author may write similar details about different things or people. You can use these similar details to make a general statement that covers all the things or people. This statement is called a **generalization**.
- A **valid** generalization can be supported by facts or details. A **faulty** generalization cannot.
- Sometimes an author makes a generalization and uses a clue word such as *all*, *many*, or *generally* to signal it.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then complete the diagram below.

John heard a program on the radio about diabetes. One woman described how she found out she had the disease. She always felt thirsty even though she drank a lot of water. She was also really hungry all the time, even though she ate a lot. She went to see her doctor, who said that she should be tested for diabetes because unusual thirst and hunger are generally symptoms. The test showed that she had diabetes.

A young boy spoke next. He too was always thirsty and hungry. He thought he was just growing, but one day he passed out at school. As the boy finished speaking, John realized that he was really hungry and thirsty. He was pouring some juice when he remembered he had eaten just a half-hour ago. He thought about the program, and he asked his mom to make a doctor's appointment.



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**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and recognized a generalization. Read a newspaper or magazine article together and ask your child to find a generalization along with details that support it.