Responding to Open-Response Questions using the CER Method



What is the question asking?

- Read the question carefully
- Circle or underline key words in the questions
- · Restate the question in your own words



Claim

Your concise answer to the question. The rest of your response should PROVE your claim.

Evidence



Reasoning



(Commentary)

This includes a direct quotation or a paraphrased detail from the text that <u>PROVES</u> your claim is correct. You need to <u>cite</u> your evidence.

You need to <u>EXPLAIN</u> in your own words how your evidence proves that your claim is correct.

Sentence starters for introducing evidence

These sentence starters can help you introduce your text evidence:

- The narrator states that "insert direct quotation" (p.____).
- (Insert name of character) says that "insert direct quotation" (p.____).
- In paragraph ____, the author argues that "insert direct quotation".
- The author emphasizes that "insert direct quotation" (p.____).
- On page _____, the narrator claims that (insert paraphrased details).
- In the passage, (insert title of text), the author explains that "insert direct quotation" (pg.).

Sentence starters for reasoning

These sentence starters can help you begin your reasoning (commentary):

- This shows . . .
- This means . . .
- This reveals . . .
- This expresses the idea...
- This implies...
- This suggests...
- This confirms...
- This highlights the difference between...
- The author's point is that...