

# 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



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

### 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. \_\_\_\_).

## Reasoning

(Commentary)



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

### 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...