

What is R.A.C.E.?

Please keep this
sheet for reference
throughout the school
year!

R.A.C.E. is an acronym that stands for Restate, Answer, Cite, and Explain. It is used to fully answer comprehension questions that require text evidence and thought from the reader.

R.A.C.E. shouldn't only be used in reading class, however! It should be applied across other subject areas such as Science and Social Studies too! Here is an example using a passage:

A Clean Park (taken from Readworks.org)

Tyler ran into the kitchen.

"Mom, I'm going to the park!" he said.

"Wear your helmet!" his mom called back. The park was just down the street. Tyler grabbed his bike and rode there. It was pretty much his favorite place to go. The park looked pretty crowded. Some kids were playing. But other kids held garbage bags. They were picking up trash.

Tyler stopped his bike. One of the kids was Lauren, a girl from his school. She waved at Tyler.

"We're cleaning up the park today," she said. "Want to help?"

"No thanks," Tyler said. Today was Saturday, a day off. He came to the park to have fun, not to work!

Tyler rode his bike around the path. He passed the swings and slide. He passed the small pond. As he rode, he saw things he never noticed before. There was lots of garbage on the ground. He saw old soda bottles. He saw old food wrappers. It was pretty gross.

Tyler rode back to Lauren. He got off his bike.

"I'll help," he said. Lauren smiled.

"Here," she said. She gave him a bag. Tyler and the kids cleaned for about an hour. When they were done, the park looked great.

Tyler rode his bike around the path again. There were no old soda bottles. There were no old food wrappers. Tyler smiled. Now the park was better than ever!

Question: What character trait best describes Tyler?

Sample Answer Using R.A.C.E.:

- **Restate and Answer:** The character trait that best describes Tyler is responsible.
 - *The answer is restated using the question's words and it is answered.*
- **Cite Evidence:** According to the last part of the story, he saw the garbage on the ground of the park and thought it looked gross. He decided to help Lauren clean the park.
 - *Text evidence is used as the basis for the answer.*
- **Explain:** This tells me that he is a responsible person because he is doing his part to keep the park clean.
 - *The answer is further explained with personal thinking and reasons.*

Written Out, the answer would look like this:

The character trait that best describes Tyler is responsible. According to the last part of the story, he saw the garbage on the ground of the park and thought it looked gross. He decided to help Lauren clean the park. This tells me that he is a responsible person because he is doing his part to keep the park clean.