

Constructed Response: Short Answer Item Stems (Claim 1) – Gr 3-5

Literary Texts:

Target 2 - Central Ideas

- Determine the [theme/main idea] of the passage. Explain the [theme/main idea] and support your answer using key details from the passage.
- What is the [theme/main idea] of the passage? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- Read the [sentence(s)/line(s)/paragraph(s)].
[excerpt from text]
What is the [author's/narrator's] main idea in the [sentence(s)/line(s)/paragraph(s)]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- Summarize the first paragraph. Use key [details/events] from the passage in your summary.
- Read the [sentence(s)/line(s)/paragraph(s)].
[excerpt from text]
Summarize the [sentence(s)/line(s)/paragraph(s)]. Use key [details/events] from the passage in your summary.
- Summarize what happens [after/during] [provide text event]. Use key [details/events] from the passage in your summary.

Appropriate Stems for Dual-Text Stimuli Only:

- What [theme/main idea] can be found in **both** [title text #1] and [title text #2]? Use key details from **both** passage to support and explain your answer.
- What [theme/main idea] from [title text #1] is made clear by the description of [provide an idea/event/character/etc.] in [title text #2]? Use key [details/events] from [title text #1] to support and explain your answer.

Target 4 - Reasoning and Evaluation

- What inference can be made about [provide character's name/ setting/plot/author's point of view/theme/topic]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What inference can be made about the narrator's feelings toward [provide character's name/setting/plot]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What inference can be made about [character name]'s relationship with [character name]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What conclusion can be drawn about [provide character's name/setting/plot/author's point of view/theme/topic]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What conclusion can be drawn about the narrator's feelings toward [provide character's name/setting/plot]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What conclusion can be drawn about [character name]'s relationship with [character's name]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.

Appropriate Stems for Dual-Text Stimuli Only:

- Read the sentence(s)/line(s)/set of lines/paragraph(s)] from [title text #2].
[excerpt from text]
Based on this information, [what inference can be made/what can a reader infer] about [provide character's name/setting/plot/theme/topic/character-narrator point of view/etc.] in [title text #1]? Support and explain your answer with key details from [title text #1/both passages].
- Read the [sentence(s)/line(s)/set of lines/paragraph(s)] from [title text #2].
[excerpt from text]
Based on this information, [what conclusion can be drawn/what can a reader conclude] about [provide character's name/setting/plot/theme/topic/character-narrator point of view/etc.] in [title text #1]? Support and explain your answer with key details from [title text #1/both passages].

Target 9 – Central Ideas

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- What is the main idea of the passage? Explain the main idea and support your answer using key details from the passage.
- What is the main idea of the passage? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- Read the paragraph from the passage.
[excerpt from text]
What is the main idea in this paragraph? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- In the passage, the author writes [provide text excerpt]. Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- Summarize the [first paragraph/introduction]. Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- Summarize what happens [after/during] [provide text event]. Use key [details/events] from the passage in your summary.
- Summarize what happens in [provide section/heading]. Use key [details/events] from the passage in your summary.

Appropriate Stems for Dual-Text Stimuli Only:

- What main idea can be found in **both** [title text #1] and [title text#2]? Use key details from **both** passages to support and explain your answer.
NOTE: This stem can only be used with two informational passages.
- What main idea from [title text #1] is made clear by the description of [provide idea/event] in [title text #2]? Use key details from [title text #1] to support and explain your answer.

Target 11 – Reasoning and Evaluation

- What inference can be made about the [provide example of author’s use of information/point of view/purpose]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What inference can be made about the author’s opinion about [provide idea/concept in the text]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What conclusion can be drawn about the [author’s use of information/point of view/purpose]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What conclusion can be drawn about the author’s opinion about [provide idea/concept in the text]? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.
- What did the author **most likely** mean by using [provide target detail] in the text? Use key details from the passage to support and explain your answer.

Appropriate Stems for Dual-Text Stimuli Only:

- Read the [sentence(s)/section(s)/paragraph(s)] from [title text #2].

[excerpt from text]

Based on this information, [what inference can be made/what can a reader infer] about [provide example of the author’s use of information/point of view/purpose] in [title text #1]? Support and explain your answer with key details from [title text #1/both passages].

- Read the [sentence(s)/section(s)/paragraph(s)] from [title text #2].

[excerpt from text]

Based on this information, [what conclusion can be drawn/what can a reader conclude] about [provide example of the author’s use of information/point of view/purpose] in [text #1 name]? Support and explain your answer with key details from [title text #1/both passages].