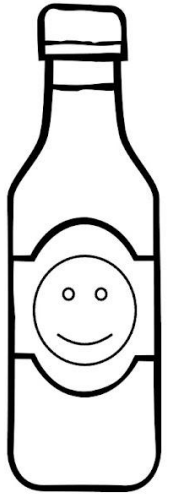


STAY POSITIVE

A **positive** mindset can help you feel more confident and reduce stress. Remind yourself that you have **prepared** and you are capable of doing well. If you encounter a difficult question or section, take a deep **breath** and stay calm.

You can do this!



1. Stay Positive
2. Read Carefully
3. Read The Directions

READ

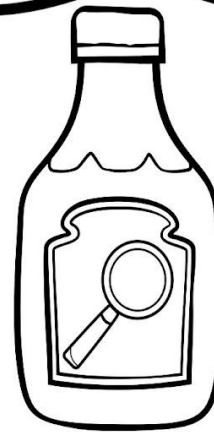
THE DIRECTIONS



Read the directions for each **section** of the test. Some questions may have specific **instructions** or require you to show your work or write a certain type of response. Make sure you **understand** what is expected of you.

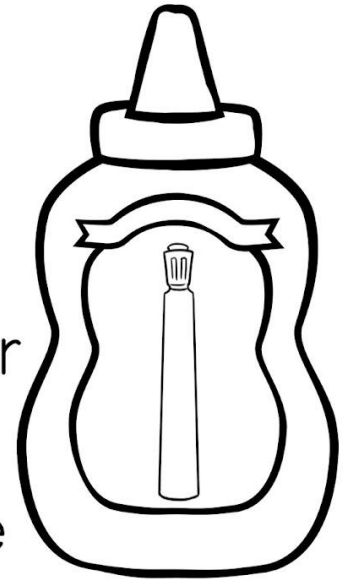
READ CAREFULLY

Take your **time** and read each question and answer option carefully. Make sure you understand what is being asked before choosing an answer. Pay attention to key **words** and phrases, such as "not" or "except."



USE YOUR RESOURCES

You may be **allowed** to use certain resources, such as a highlighter or scratch paper. Use these **tools** to your **advantage**, and make sure you are familiar with how to use them before the test.



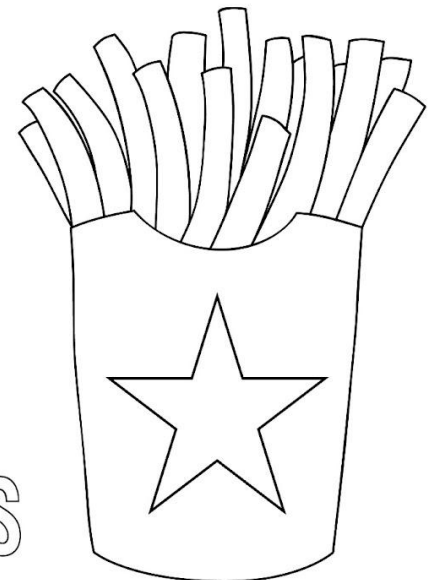
4. **Answer Every Question**

5. **Use Your Resources**

ANSWER EVERY QUESTION

Even if you are **unsure** of an answer, it is important to attempt every **question**. You may be able to eliminate some answer options and make an **educated** guess.

NOW YOU
CAN
DIP
INTO SUCCESS

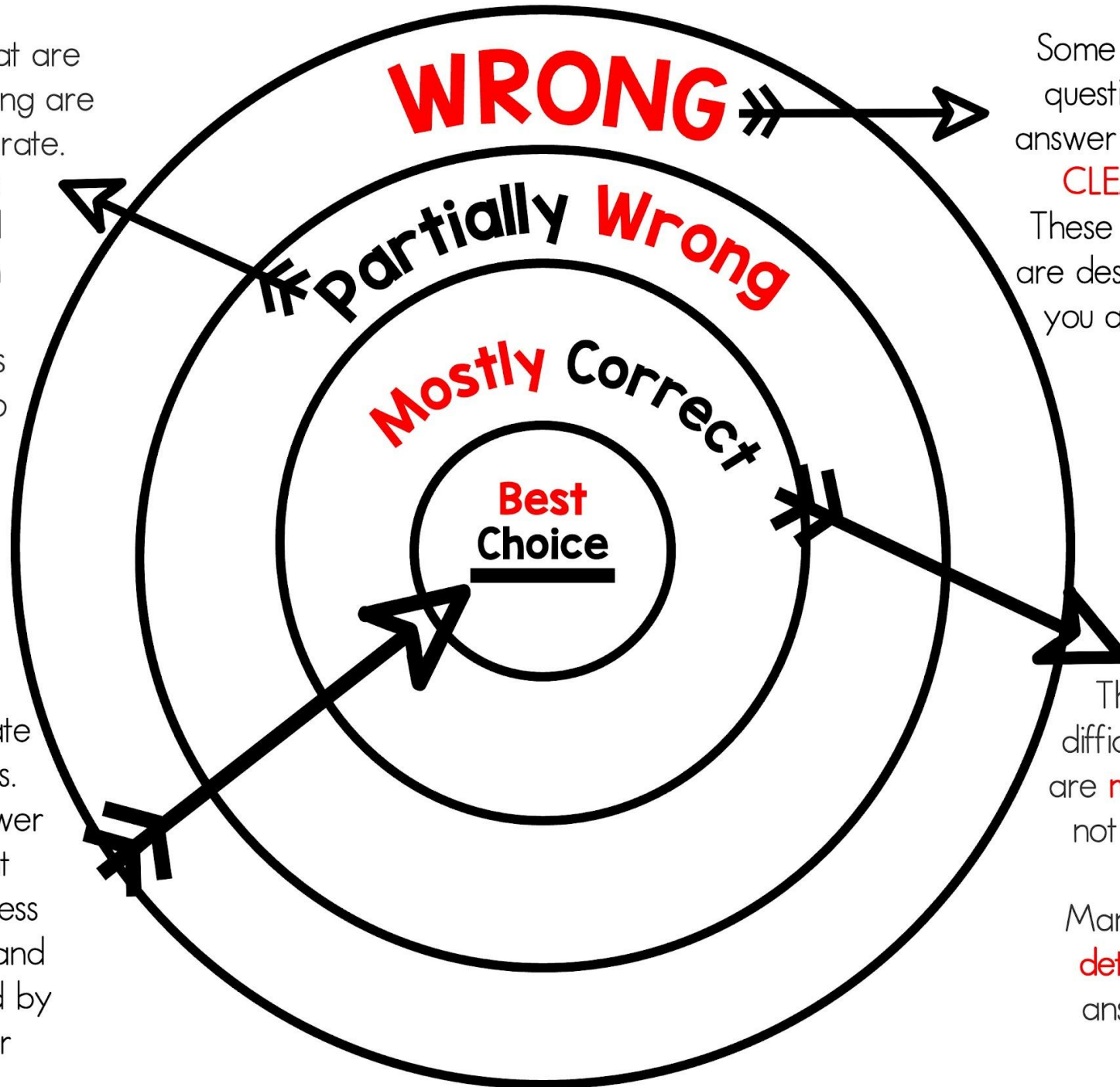


AIM FOR A BULLSEYE

Answers that are **partially** wrong are often accurate.

They state a fact or detail **mentioned** in the text. However, it is not related to the question that was asked.

Most accurate and best fits. Look for answer options that directly address the question and are supported by **evidence** or reasoning.

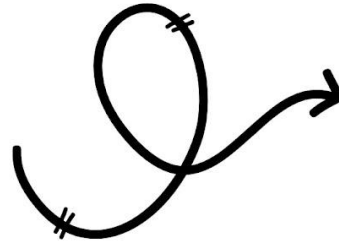
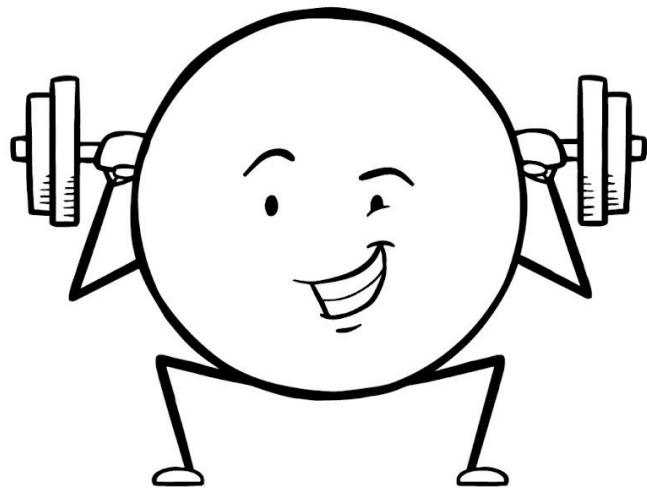


Some multiple-choice questions may have answer options that are **CLEARLY** wrong.

These answer options are designed to **distract** you and waste your time.

These are more difficult because they are **mostly** correct. But not always the best answer.

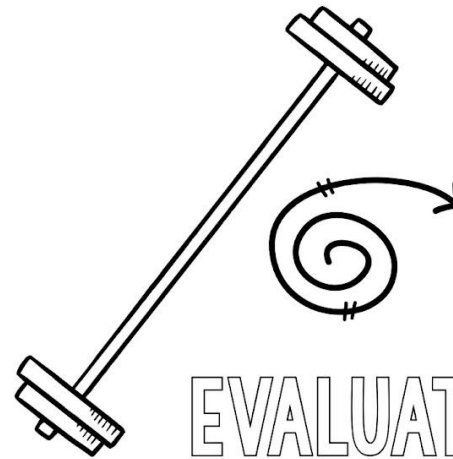
Many times, the little **details** within these answers make the difference.



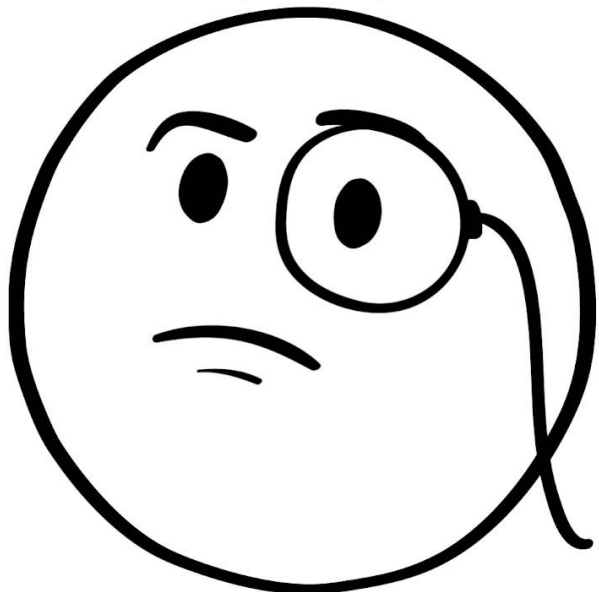
There are some important test-taking **vocabulary** words that you might see on the test. It's **important** to know these words to know exactly what is being asked and how you should answer the **question**.

POWER WORDS

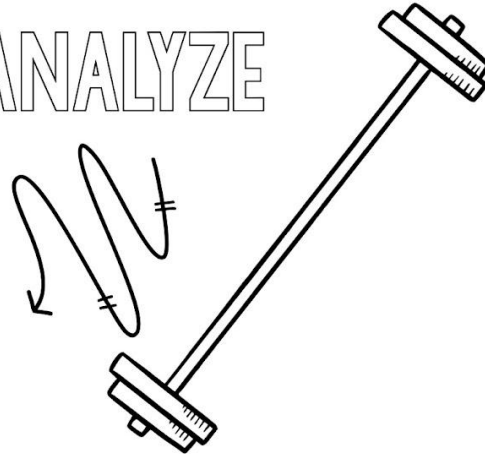
Analyze means to examine something in detail and break it down into its components. When you analyze something, you look **closely** at it to better **understand** it. For example, you might be asked to analyze a poem or a passage of text.



EVALUATE



ANALYZE

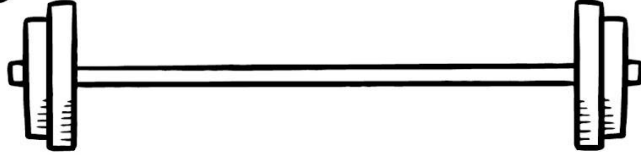


Evaluate means to assess the **strengths** and weaknesses of something and form an **opinion** about it. When you evaluate something, you **judge** it based on what you've learned. For example, you might be asked to evaluate the effectiveness of an argument in an essay.



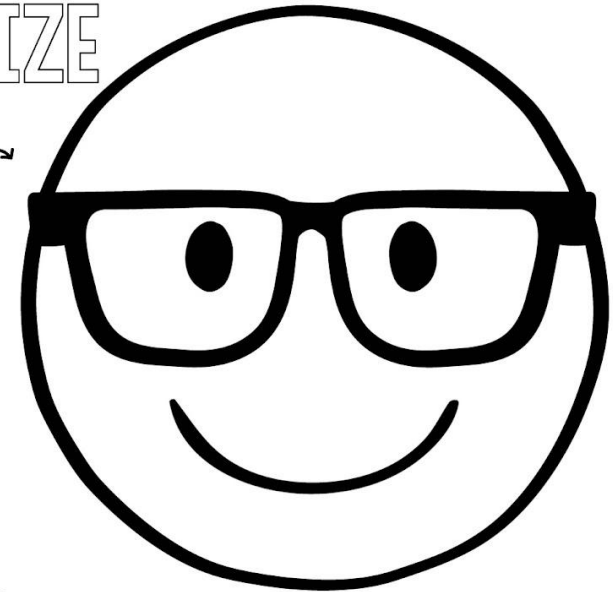
INFER

Infer means to draw a **conclusion** based on evidence and reasoning. When you infer something, you're using what you know to make an **educated** guess about something you don't know for **sure**. For example, you might be asked to infer the meaning of a word based on the context of a sentence.



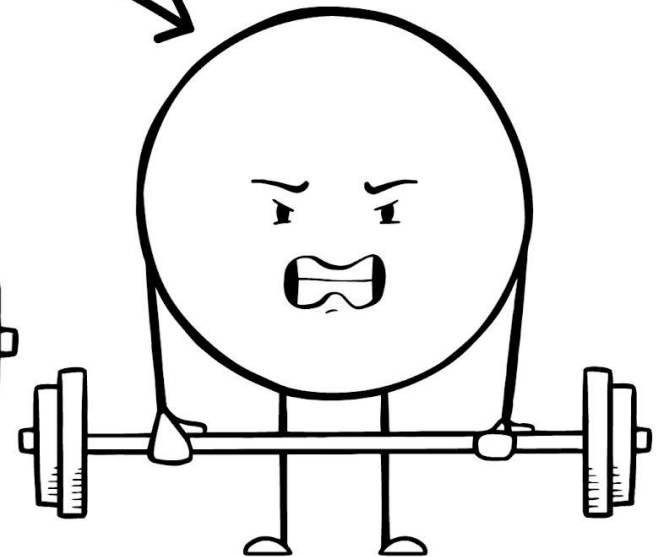
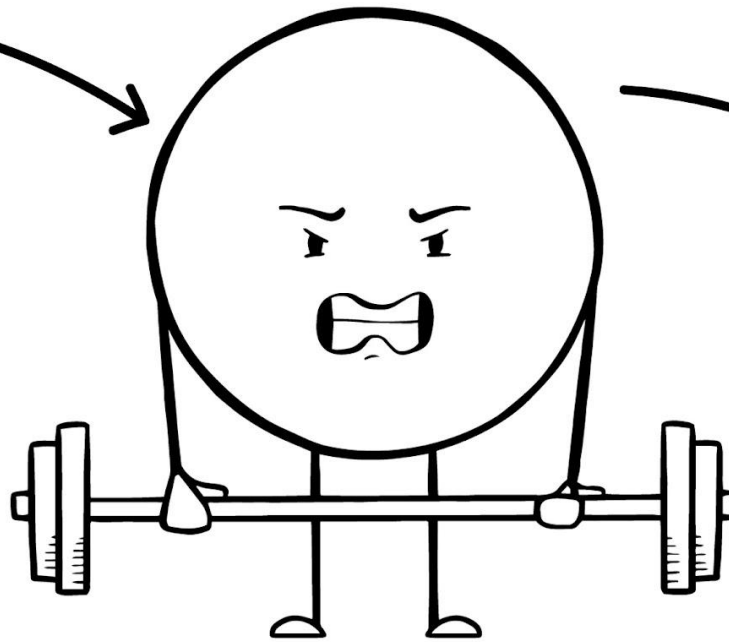
SYNTHESIZE

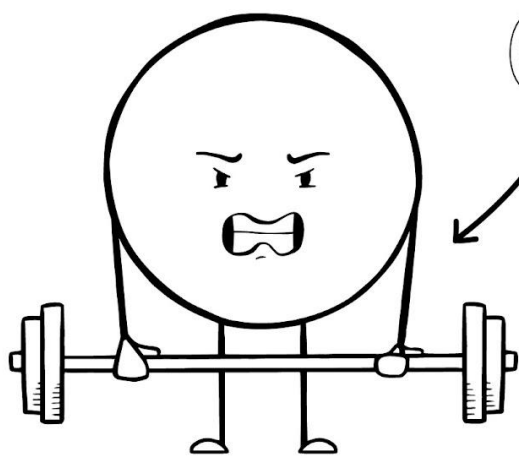
Synthesize means to **combine** ideas or information from multiple sources to create a new understanding. When you **synthesize** something, you're taking what you've learned from different **sources** and putting it together in a new way. For example, you might be asked to synthesize information from multiple articles to form an argument.



COMPARE

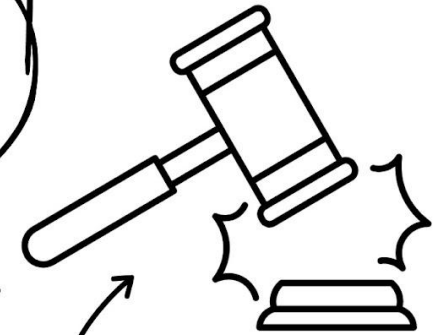
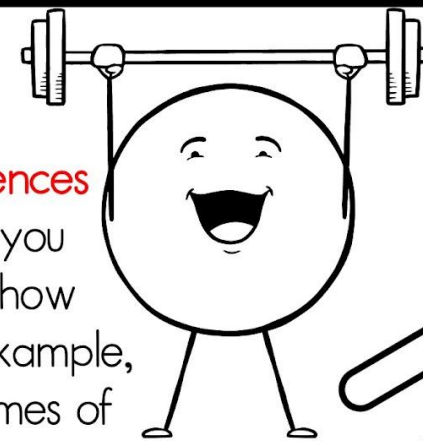
Compare means to identify similarities between two or more things. When you compare something, you're looking at how they're **alike**. For example, you might be asked to compare two **characters** in a story.





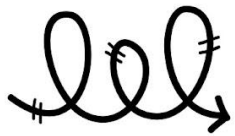
CONTRAST

Contrast means to highlight the **differences** between two or **more** things. When you contrast something, you're looking at how they're **different** from each other. For example, you might be asked to contrast the themes of two different stories.

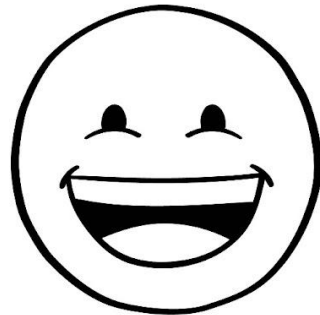


JUSTIFY

Justify means to **provide** evidence or reasoning to support a claim or position. When you justify something, you're showing **why** you believe what you **believe**. For example, you might be asked to justify your answer with evidence from the text.



SUMMARIZE

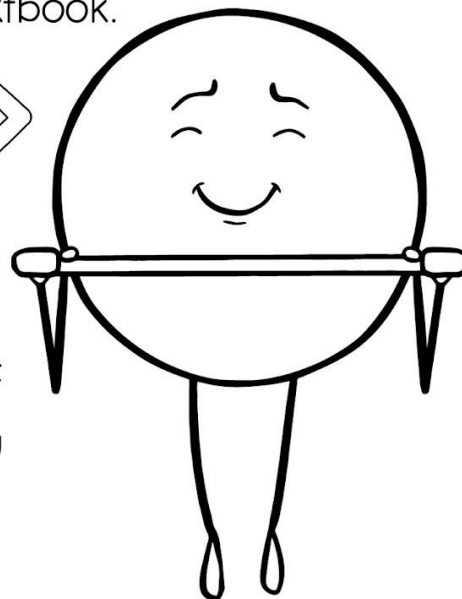


Let me tell you about this great story!

Summarize means to **briefly** describe the main points or ideas of a longer text or discussion. When you **summarize** something, you're condensing it into a **shorter** version. For example, you might be asked to summarize a chapter from a textbook.

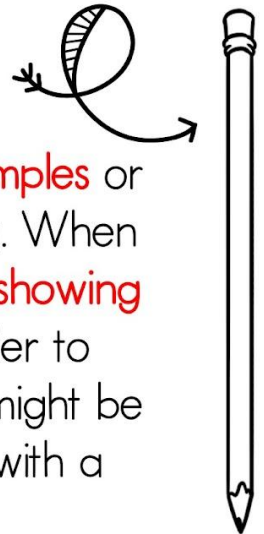
EXCERPT >>>

An excerpt is a short **passage** taken from a longer text. When you see an excerpt on a test, you're only seeing a **small** part of the larger **text**. For example, you might be asked to analyze an excerpt from a novel.

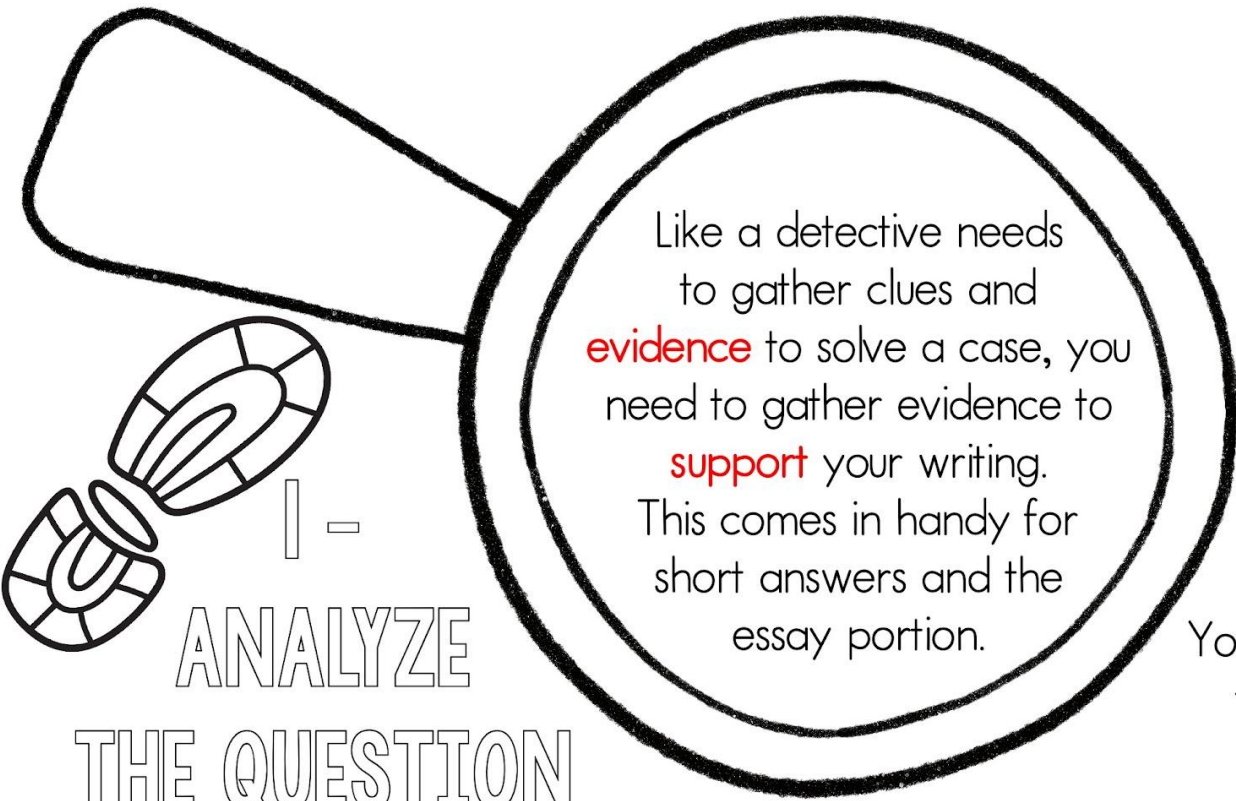


ILLUSTRATE

Illustrate means to provide **examples** or visual aids to explain something. When you illustrate something, you're **showing** it in a way that makes it easier to **understand**. For example, you might be asked to illustrate a concept with a diagram or a chart.



FIND TEXT EVIDENCE

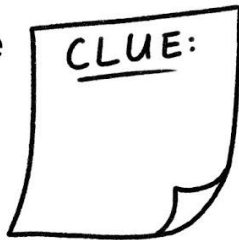


1 -

ANALYZE

THE QUESTION

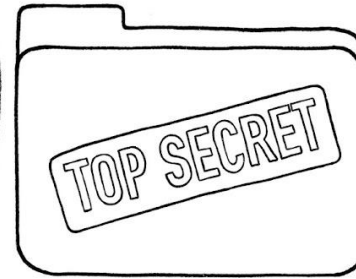
You need to **analyze** the question and figure out what kind of **evidence** you need to support your answer. Look for key **words** in the question that tell you what kind of evidence you need to find.



2 -

INVESTIGATE
SOURCES

Including **reading** a passage, looking at a chart or graph, or **listening** to a recording. Make sure you understand the source so you can use it **effectively** in your writing.



3 - GATHER
EVIDENCE

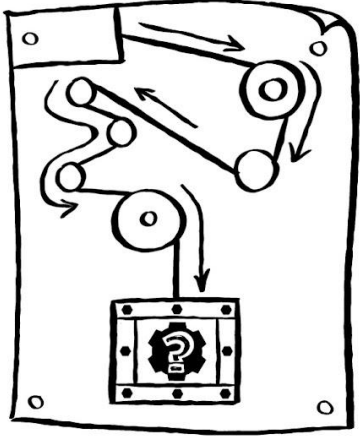
You need to gather all the **evidence** you need to support your answer. Look for specific **examples**, statistics, or quotes that make connections, and show your **answer**. Use scratch paper or a highlighting tool to collect your proof.



4 - BUILD
YOUR CASE

Use your evidence to write a clear and **concise** response that answers the question. Make sure you use your evidence **effectively** to support your answer.

CONSTRUCTING EXTENDED RESPONSE

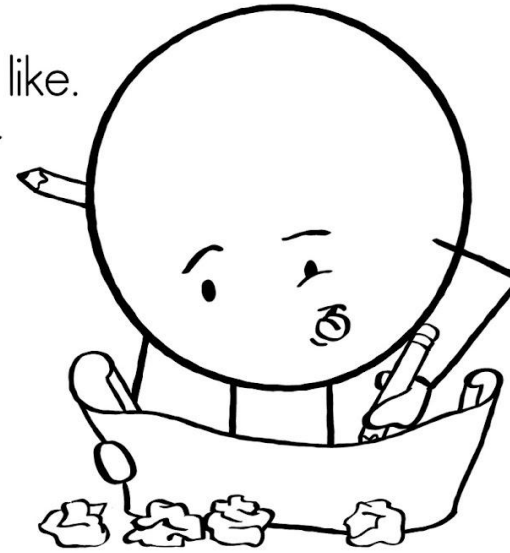
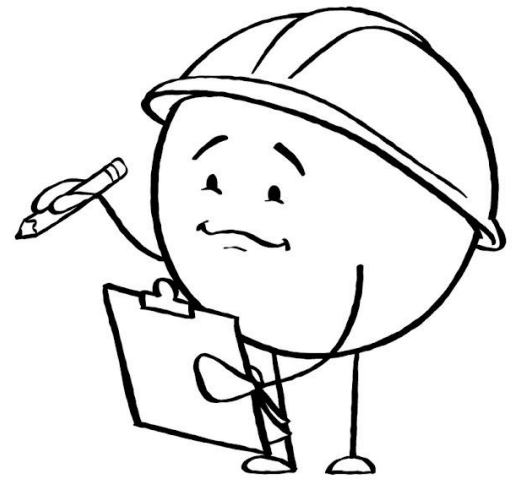


START WITH THE BLUEPRINTS

You need to read the prompt to **understand** what the question is asking and what their response should look like. Just like a builder can't **construct** a building without first reading the blueprints, you can't write an extended response without first **understanding** the prompt.

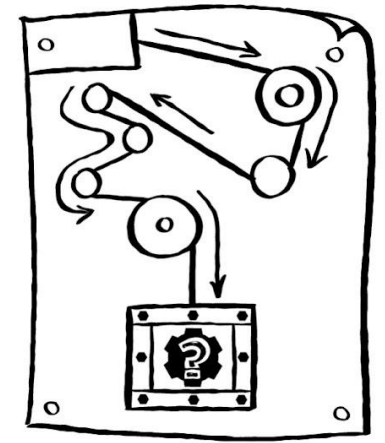
UNDERSTANDING THE BLUEPRINTS

1. Read the prompt carefully: The first step is to read the **prompt** carefully and make sure you understand what it's asking you to do.
2. Highlight key words: Look for key words in the prompt, such as "analyze," "compare," "contrast," or "**evaluate**."
3. Eliminate unnecessary information: Sometimes, writing prompts can include **information** that is not directly relevant to the task at hand. Make sure you eliminate any **unnecessary** information to avoid confusion.
4. Break down complex instructions: If the prompt has **complex** instructions or multiple parts, break it **down** into smaller, manageable steps.



5. Consider the audience: Consider who your **audience** is and what their expectations might be. The **writing** prompt might tell you who your audience is.

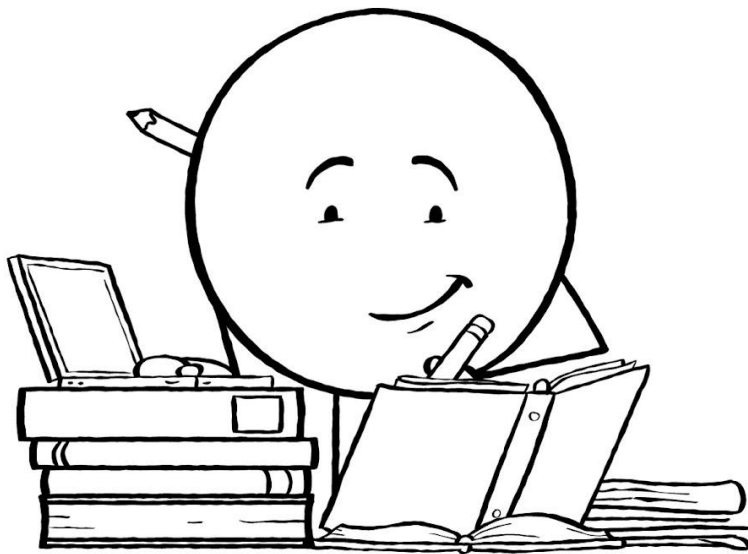
6. Think about the purpose: Think about why you're writing this **response** and the overall **purpose** of the assignment. This will help you stay focused and make sure your writing is effective.



GET ORGANIZED

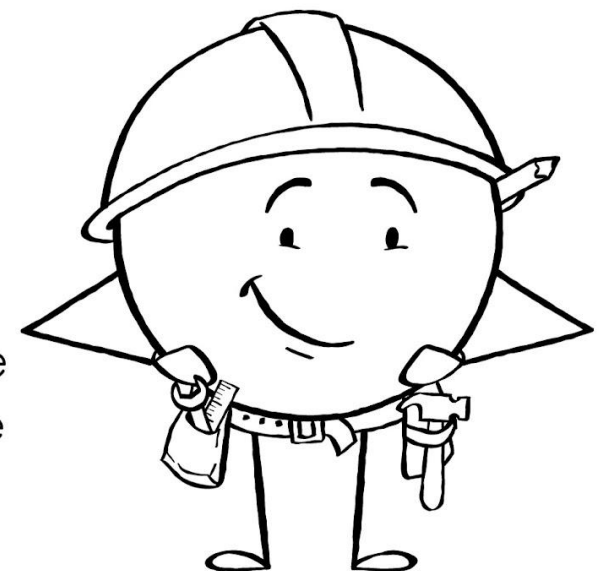
Before starting construction, a builder creates a list of the **necessary** supplies and materials, then organizes them by category.

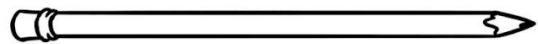
You should create an outline or graphic **organizer** to organize your thoughts and gather supporting evidence.



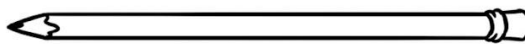
LAYING THE FOUNDATION

Just as a foundation sets the **tone** for the rest of the building, the introduction sets the tone for the rest of the essay. It should grab the reader's **attention**, provide a clear thesis statement, and preview the main points of the essay.

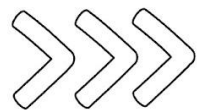




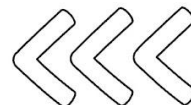
BUILD IT



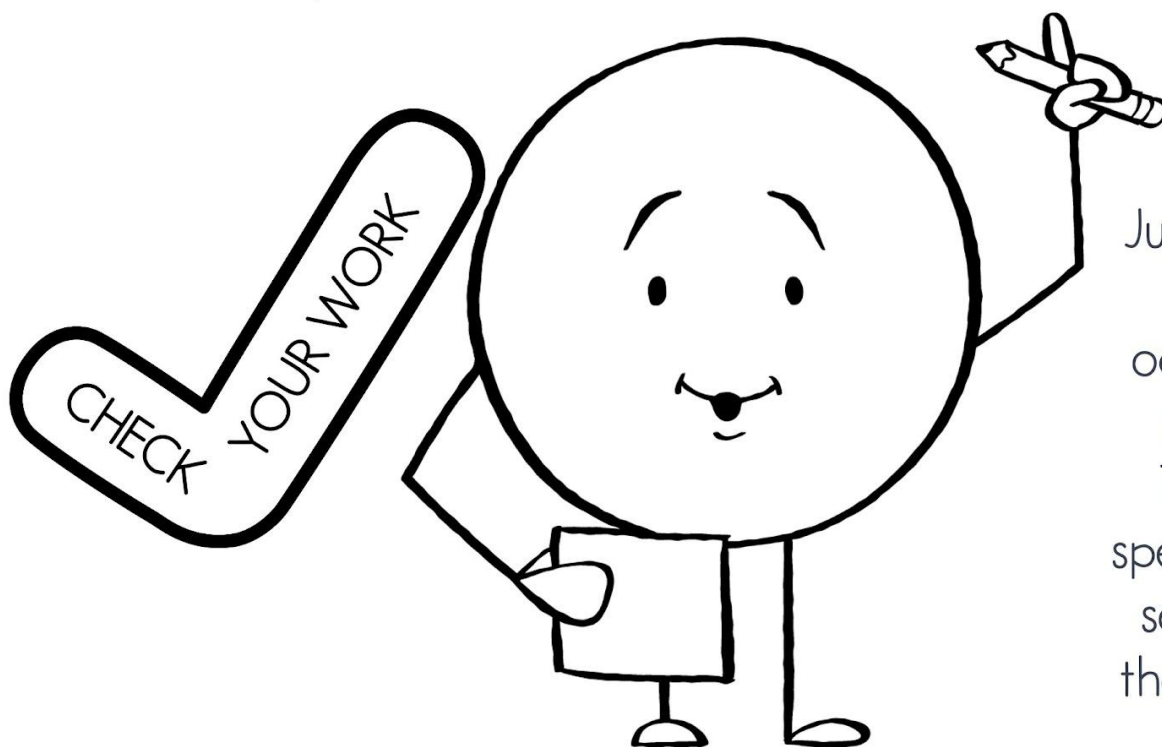
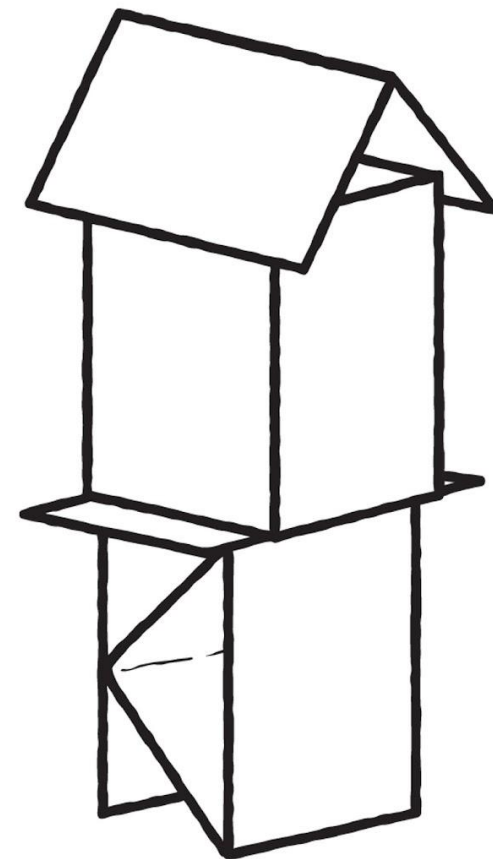
The body paragraphs are like the walls and roof of a house, providing support and **structure** for the overall structure. Each paragraph should focus on a single main idea, provide **supporting** evidence, and connect back to the thesis statement.



FINISHING TOUCHES



The conclusion is like the finishing touches of a house, bringing everything **together** and leaving a lasting impression. It should summarize the main points of the essay, restate the thesis in a new way, and leave the reader with a sense of **closure**.



FINAL INSPECTION

Just as a builder completes a final inspection to ensure that the house is ready for occupancy, you should go back and **review** their work before **submitting** their essay.

This final inspection involves checking for spelling and grammar errors, **ensuring** that all sources are properly cited, and confirming that the response meets the requirements of the prompt.