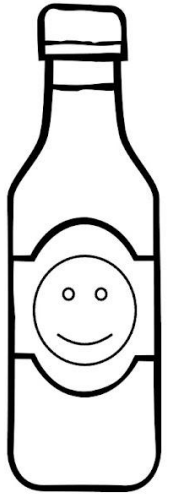


STAY POSITIVE

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

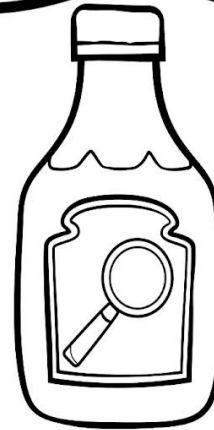
3. Read The Directions

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.

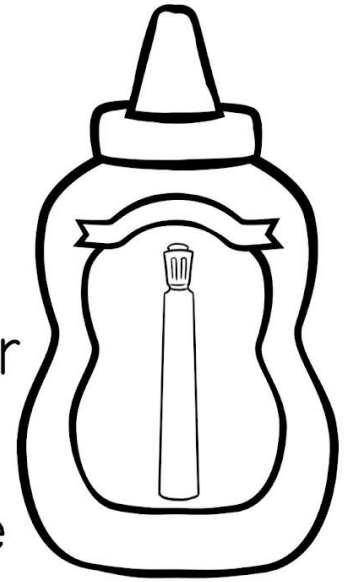


READ CAREFULLY

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.



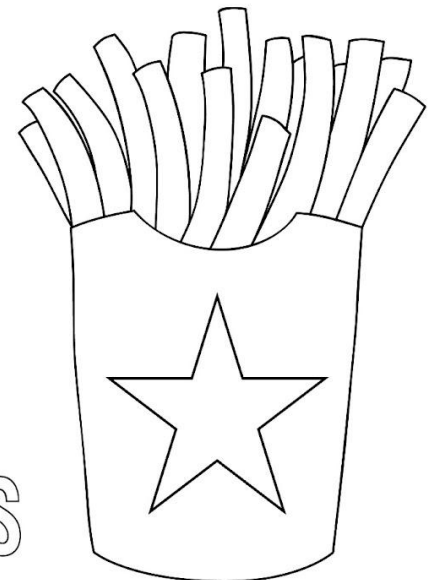
4. Answer Every Question

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



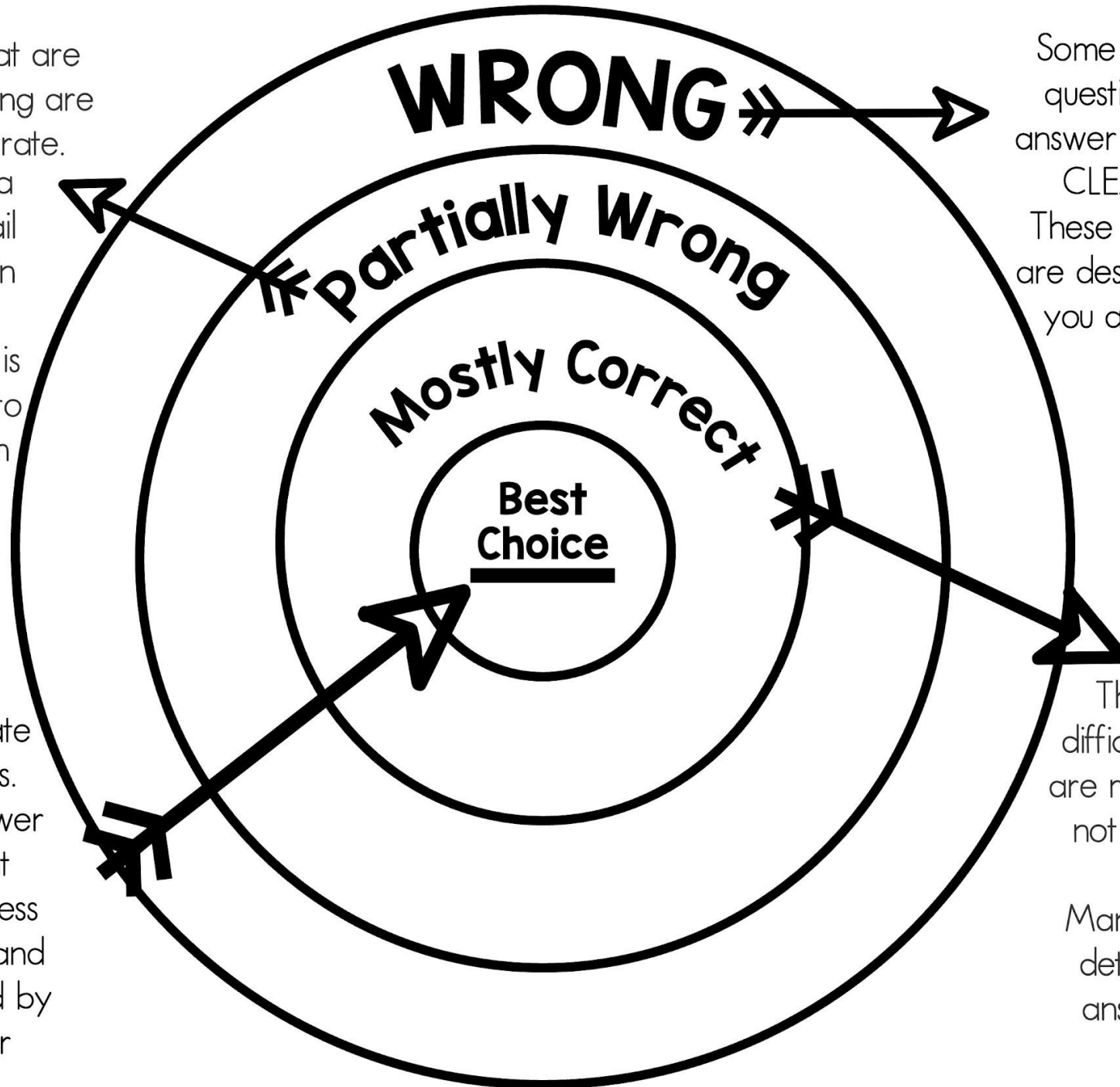
AIM FOR A BULLSEYE

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.

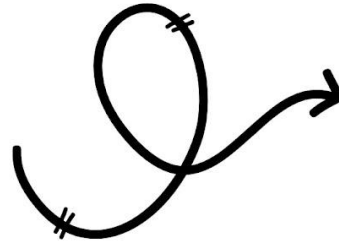
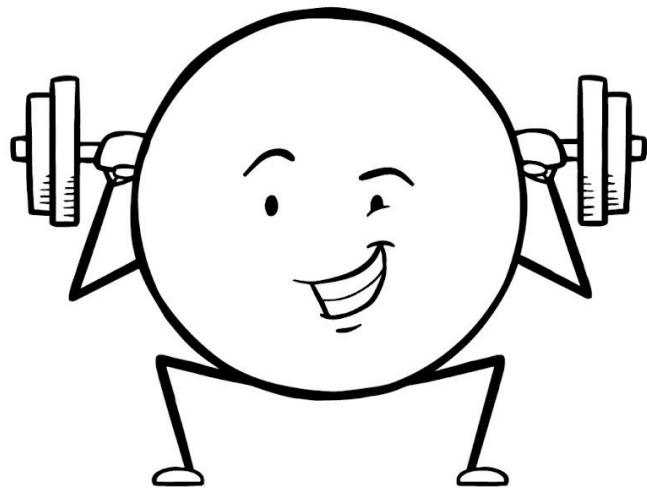


Some multiple-choice questions may have answer options that are **CLEARLY** wrong.

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.

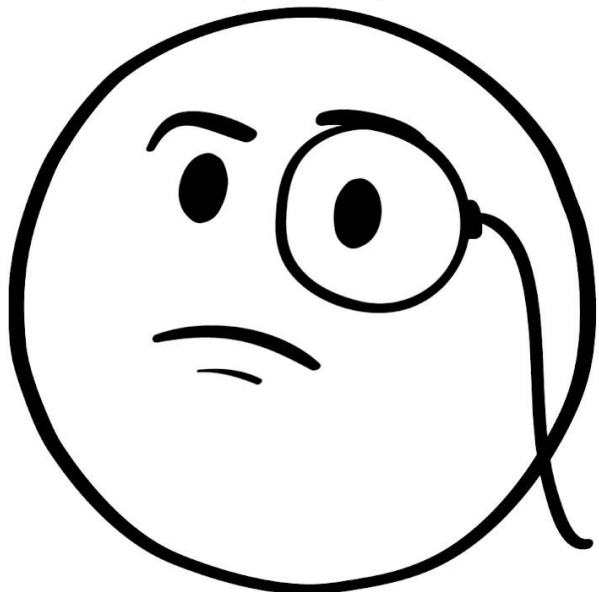
Many times, the little details within these answers make the difference.



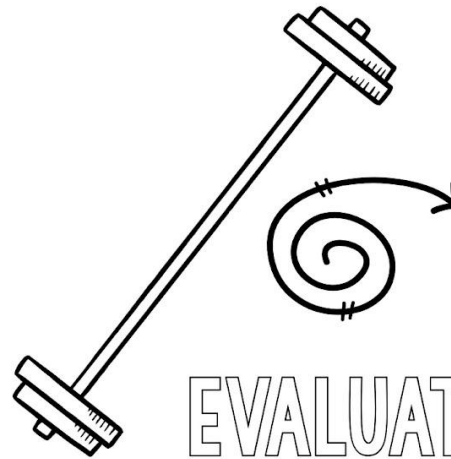
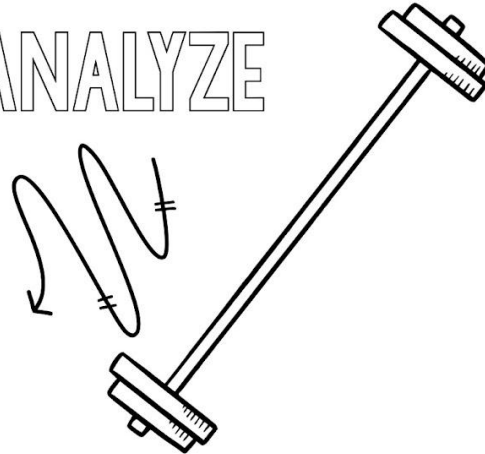
There are some important test-taking vocabulary words that you might see on the test. It's important to know these words to know exactly what is being asked and how you should answer the question.

POWER WORDS

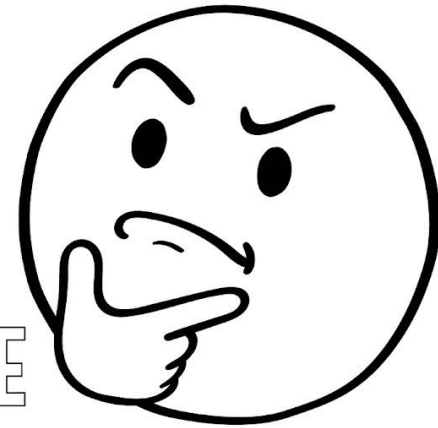
Analyze means to examine something in detail and break it down into its components. When you analyze something, you look closely at it to better understand it. For example, you might be asked to analyze a poem or a passage of text.



ANALYZE



EVALUATE

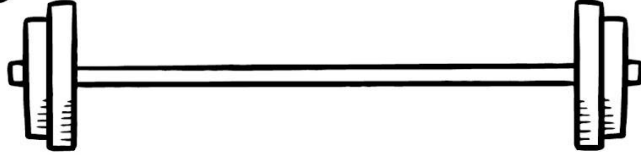


Evaluate means to assess the strengths and weaknesses of something and form an opinion about it. When you evaluate something, you judge it based on what you've learned. For example, you might be asked to evaluate the effectiveness of an argument in an essay.



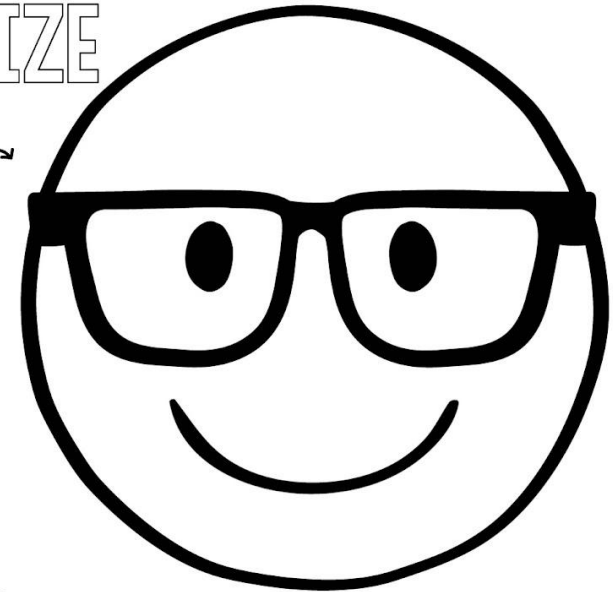
INFER

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.



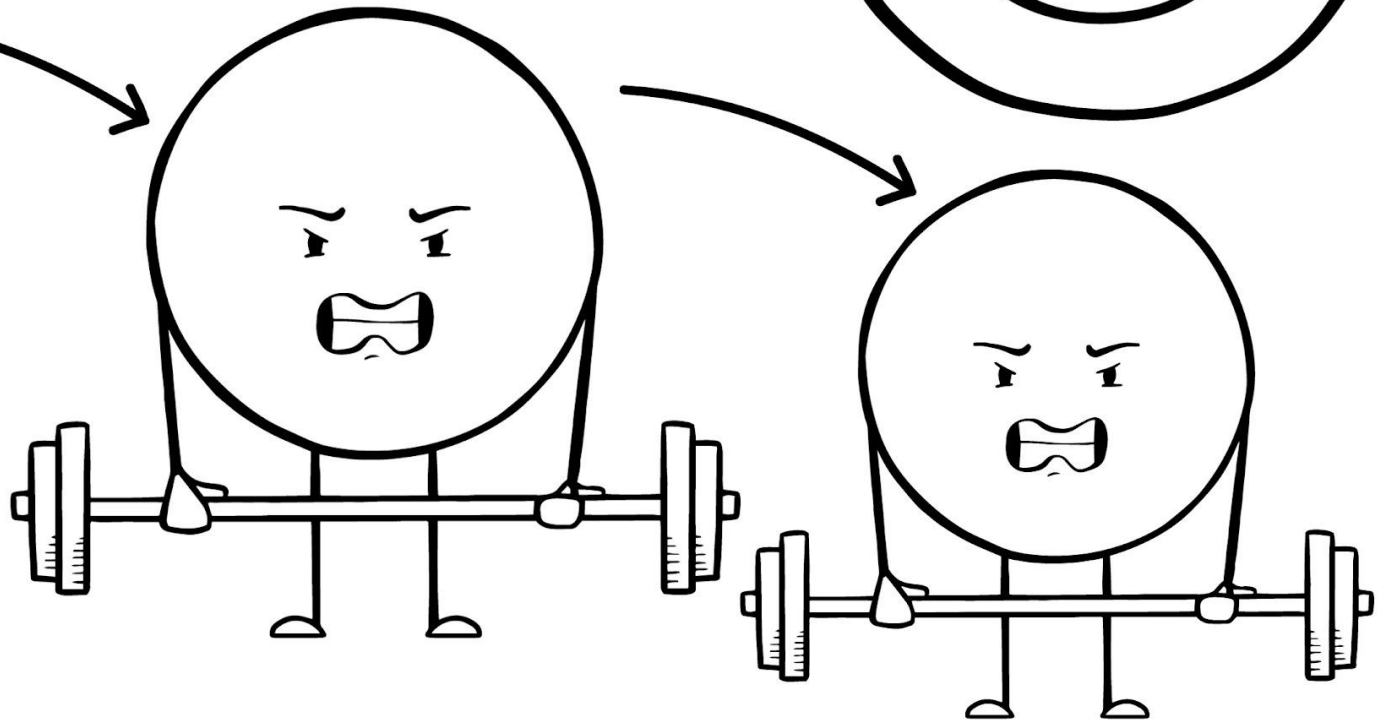
SYNTHESIZE

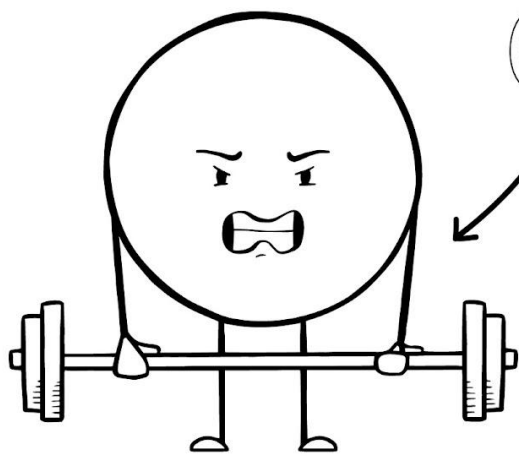
Synthesize means to combine ideas or information from multiple sources to create a new understanding. When you synthesize something, you're taking what you've learned from different sources and putting it together in a new way. For example, you might be asked to synthesize information from multiple articles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



COMPARE

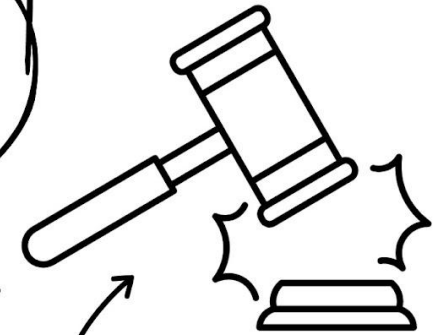
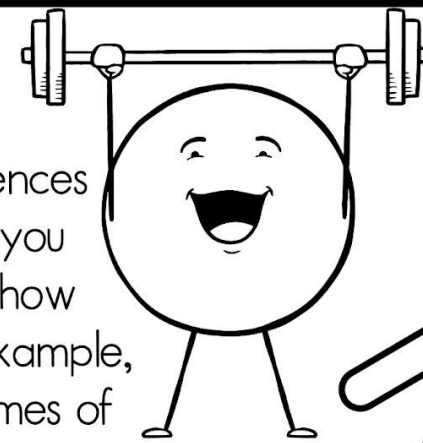
Compare means to identify similarities between two or more things. When you compare something, you're looking at how they're alike. For example, you might be asked to compare two characters in a story.





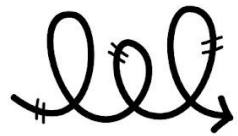
CONTRAST

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.

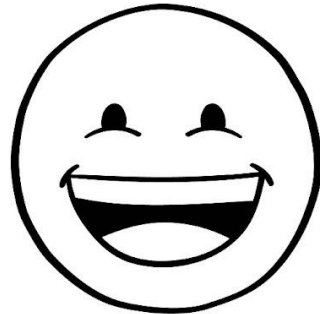


JUSTIFY

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

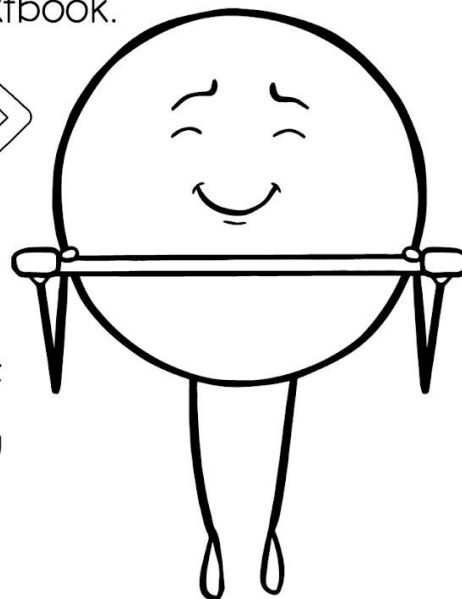


Let me tell you about this great story!

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.

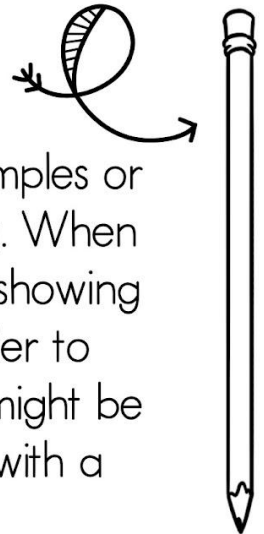
EXCERPT >>>

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.

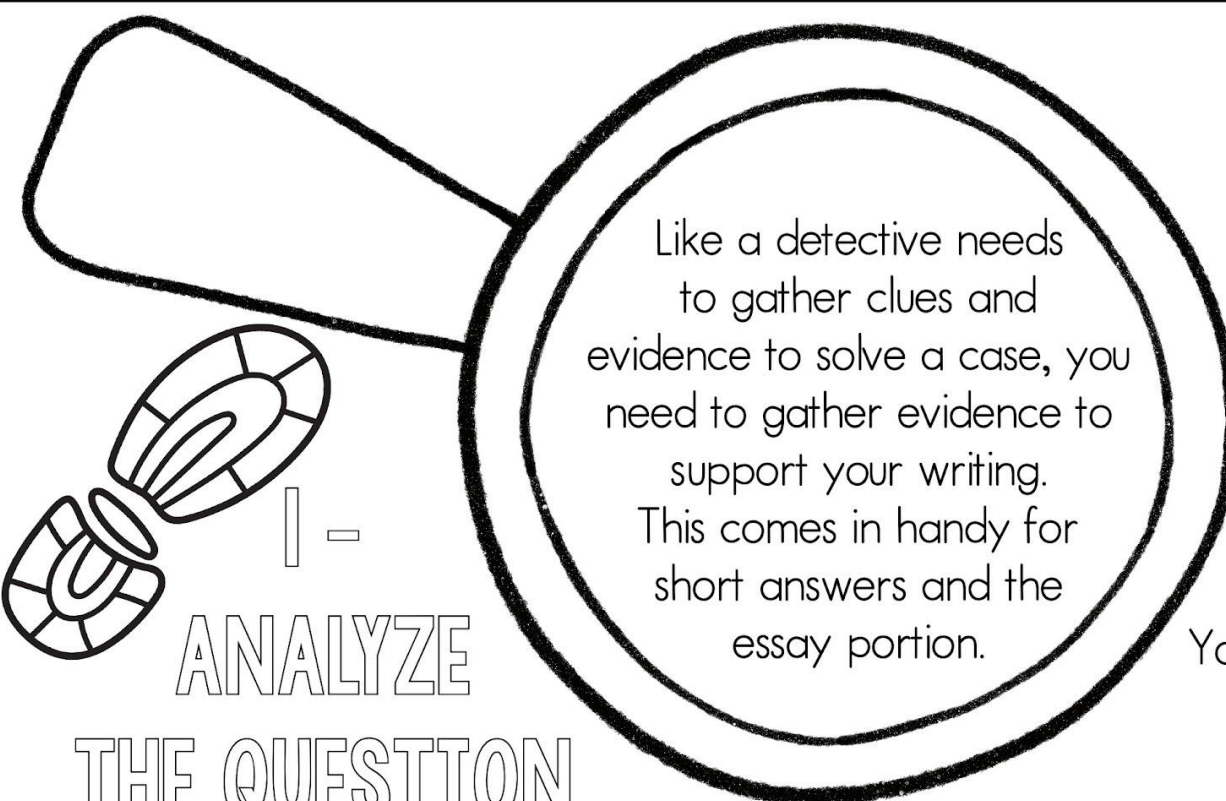


ILLUSTRATE

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

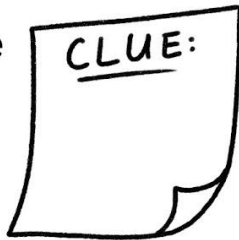


Like a detective needs to gather clues and evidence to solve a case, you need to gather evidence to support your writing. This comes in handy for short answers and the essay portion.

1 - ANALYZE

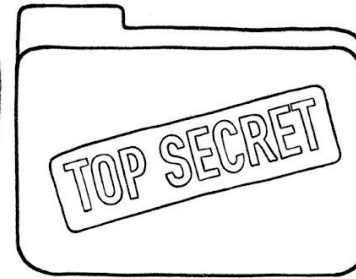
THE QUESTION

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

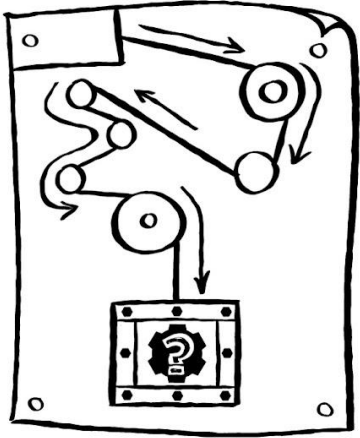
You need to gather all the evidence you need to support your answer. Look for specific examples, statistics, or quotes that make connections, and show your answer. Use scratch paper or a highlighting tool to collect your proof.



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

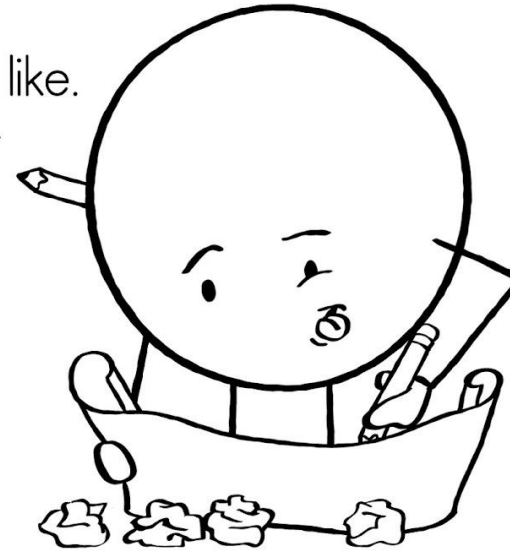
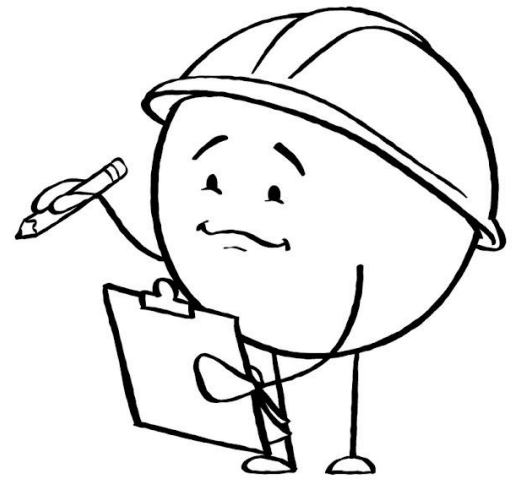


START WITH THE BLUEPRINTS

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.

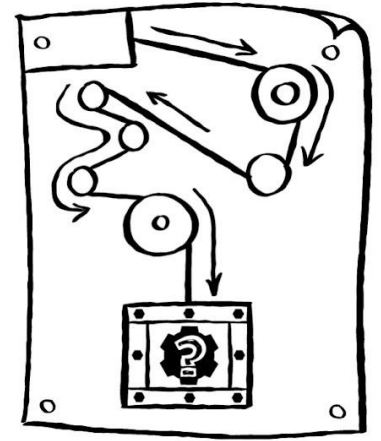
UNDERSTANDING THE BLUEPRINTS

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.

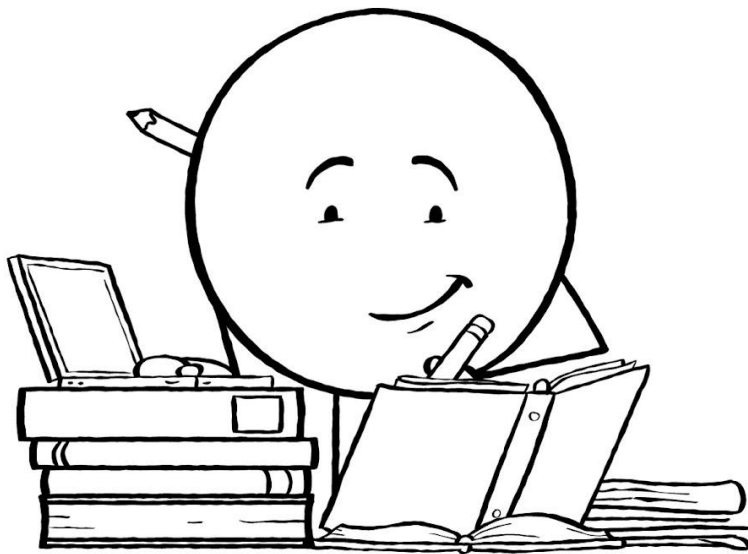
6. Think about the purpose: Think about why you're writing this response and the overall purpose of the assignment. This will help you stay focused and make sure your writing is effective.



GET ORGANIZED

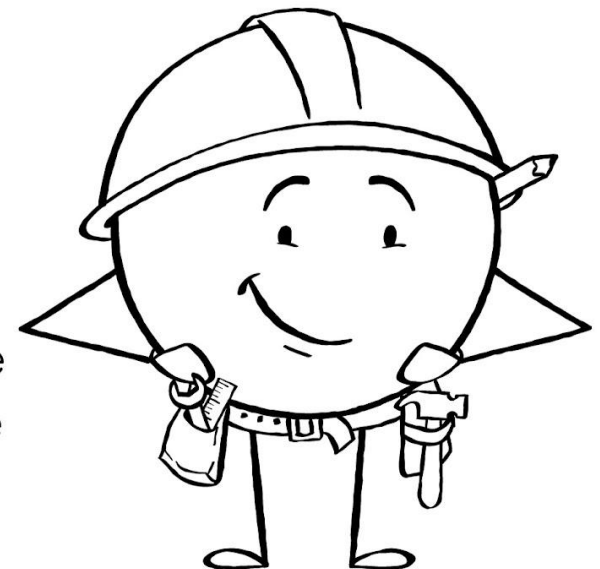
Before starting construction, a builder creates a list of the necessary supplies and materials, then organizes them by category.

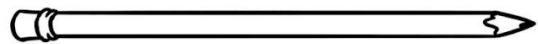
You should create an outline or graphic organizer to organize your thoughts and gather supporting evidence.



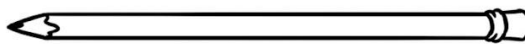
LAYING THE FOUNDATION

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.

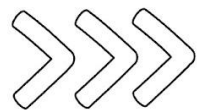




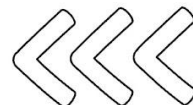
BUILD IT



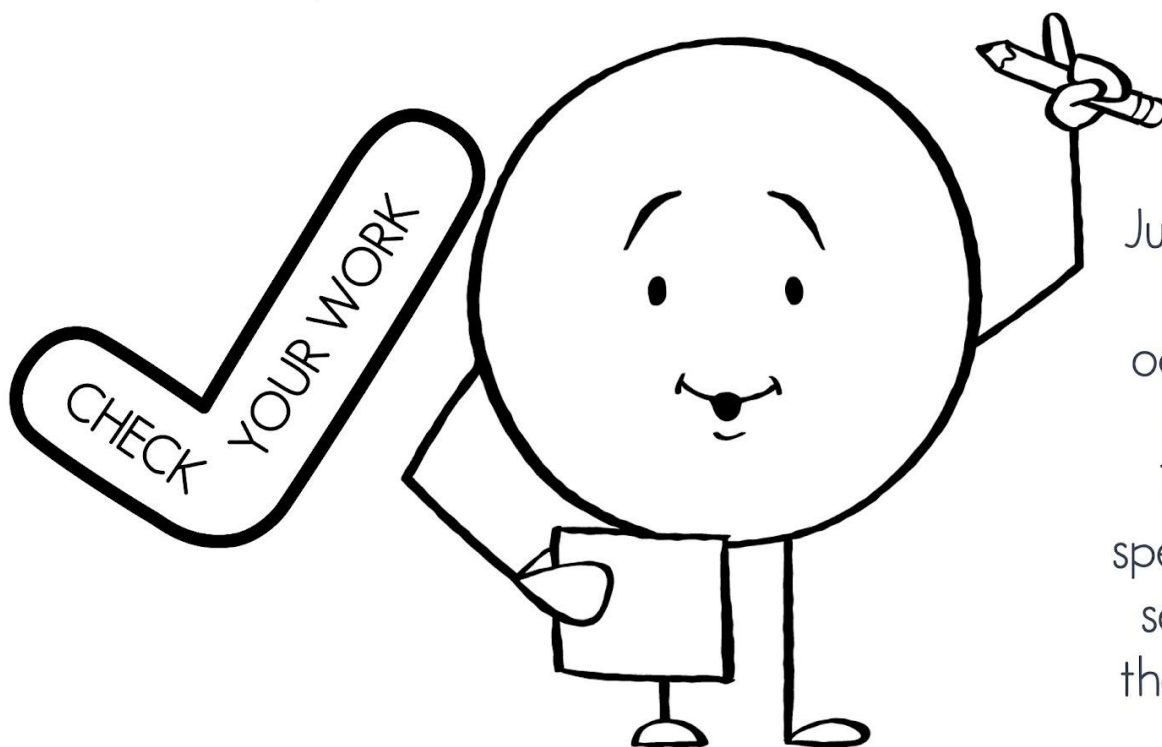
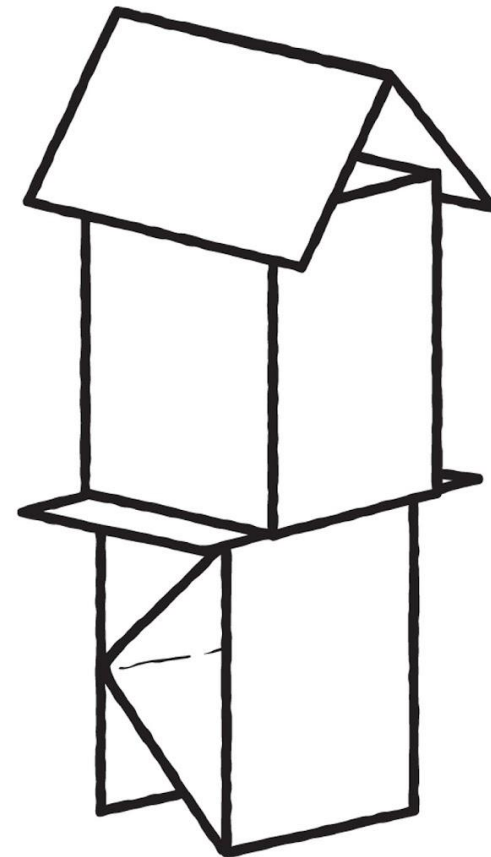
The body paragraphs are like the walls and roof of a house, providing support and structure for the overall structure. Each paragraph should focus on a single main idea, provide supporting evidence, and connect back to the thesis statement.



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.