

**Fourth Grade**

**ELA**

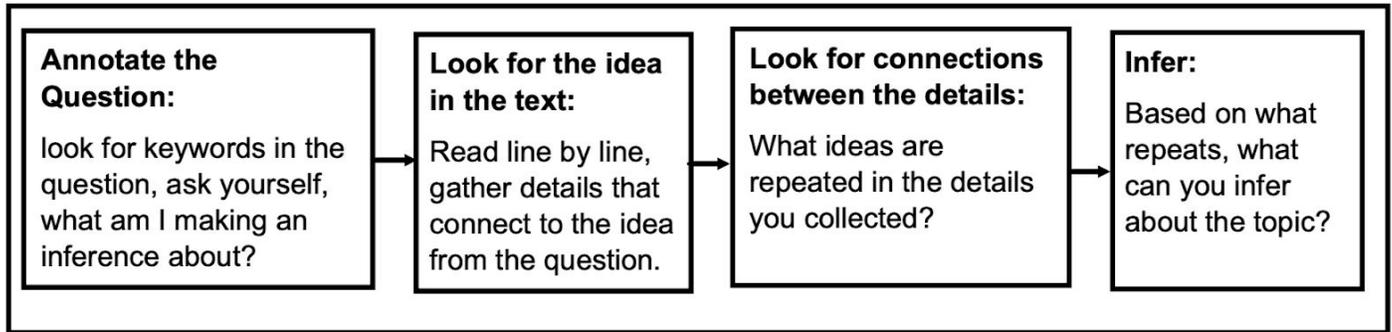
**Skills and Strategies**

**PS 376**

**Ms. Paul - March - 2020**

## 4R1

GQ: How do I answer an inference question?



### **FICTION EXAMPLE:**

GQ: In the story “*Because of Winn-Dixie*” why does the preacher change his mind after he tells Opal “No dogs.”? Use two details from the text to support your response.

The preacher changes his mind because of how Winn-Dixie acts. For example, in paragraph 19 of the text, it says, “...and put his head right in the preacher’s lap, right on top of a pile of papers.” This shows how Winn Dixie was trying to make the preacher like him. Also, in paragraph 24 it says “He put down his pencil and scratched Winn-Dixie behind the ears.” Therefore, because Winn Dixie was acting sweet, the preacher changed his mind.

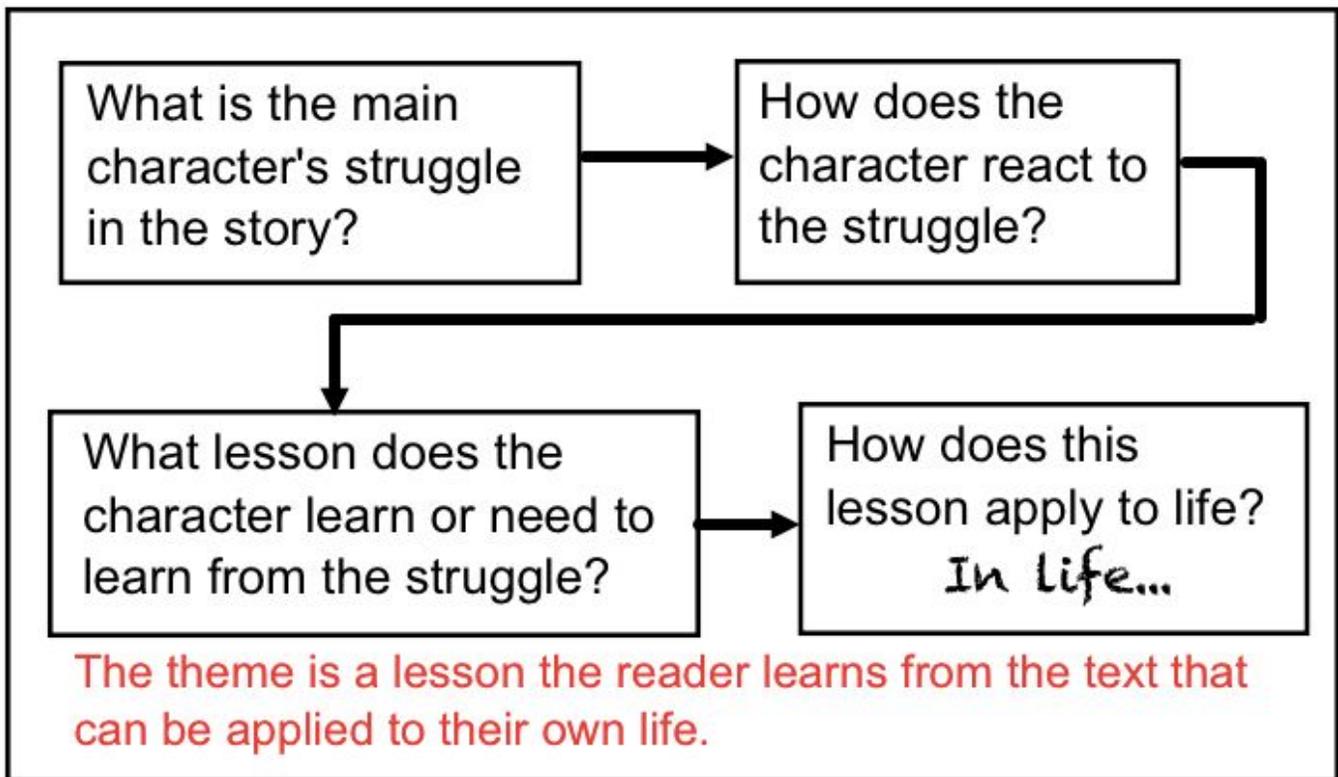
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### **NONFICTION EXAMPLE:**

GQ: In “Excerpt from *Double Dutch: A Celebration of Jump Rope, Rhyme, and Sisterhood*,” what did Tahira think about inventions? Use two details from the article to support your response.

Tahira thinks inventions should be something useful and relevant to today. For example, in paragraph 1, it says “Almost everyone drew a picture of astronauts, rockets, or people who lived on the moon.” This shows that everyone else drew something not useful. Also in paragraph 1 it says, “But Tahira thought an invention should be practical, as well as imaginative.” Therefore Tahira wanted to make an invention that would be useful for solving her everyday problems.

GQ: How can I find the theme by analyzing the character's struggle?



**EXAMPLE ONE:**

GQ: What is a theme of “Excerpt from *The Facts and Fictions of Minna Pratt*”? Use two details from the text to support your response.

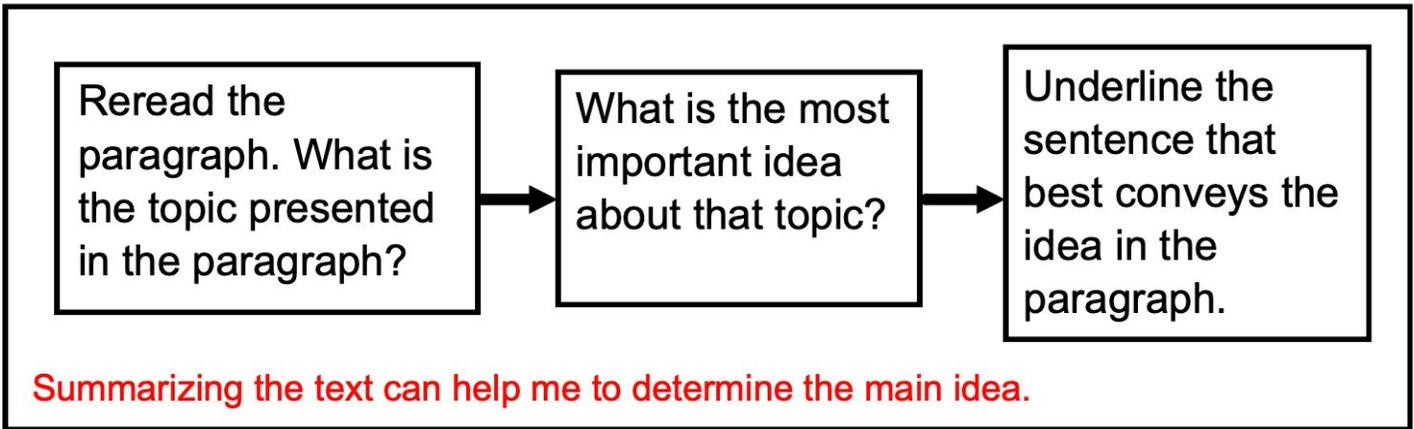
A theme is that in life, you should be grateful for what you have. For example, in paragraph 6, it says “Lucas has a vibrato. Even Willie has one. Where is mine?” This shows how badly Minna wants a vibrato. In paragraph 26, it says “We will play it wonderfully. In tune. With or without a vibrato.” Therefore, Minna realizes she loves playing the cello no matter what, even if she does not have a vibrato yet.

**EXAMPLE TWO:**

GQ: What is a theme of “Lost on Ellis Island”? Use two details from the text to support your response.

A theme of “Lost on Ellis Island” is that in life things are not always what they seem. At the beginning of the story, Emily is going to Ellis Island and is tired of going to museums with her family. This shows that she thinks all museums are the same and she is bored with them. At the end of the story, Emily didn’t even notice it was time to leave because she was so fascinated with the information she was learning. This shows that Emily realized she could have fun at a museum after all. Therefore, in life, you should give all things a try, even if you don’t think you’ll like them.

GQ: How can I summarize a nonfiction text?

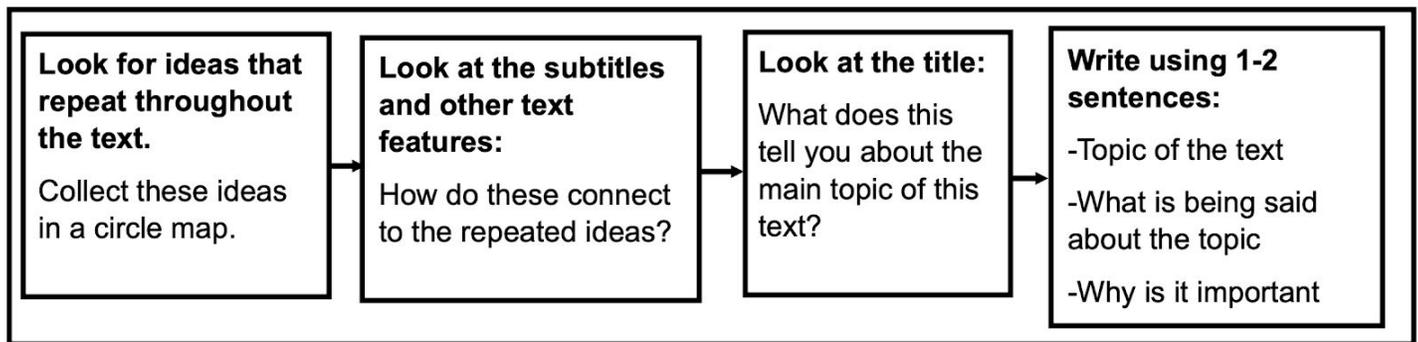


**EXAMPLE:**

GQ: Summarize "How Birds Beat the Odds."

<u>How Birds Beat the Odds</u>			
<u>Introduction</u>	<u>The More, The Merrier</u>	<u>Try, Try Again</u>	<u>Spiny Hideaway</u>
<p><b>Topic:</b> raising baby birds  <b>Idea:</b> it is very difficult to raise baby birds</p> <p><i>"Parent birds have to keep their eggs safe from predators, shelter the chicks from weather, and find enough food for all those hungry mouths."</i></p>	<p><b>Topic:</b> the Gambel's quail  <b>Idea:</b> how the Gambel's quail makes sure the next generation survives</p> <p><i>"By laying lots of eggs, adult quails increase the chances that at least some of their young will grow up to lay eggs themselves."</i></p>	<p><b>Topic:</b> robins  <b>Idea:</b> how robins make sure enough of their young survive</p> <p><i>"Building several nests in a season instead of just once makes it more likely that at least one clutch will survive to become adult robins."</i></p>	<p><b>Topic:</b> Gila woodpeckers  <b>Idea:</b> Gila woodpeckers hide their eggs to protect them</p> <p><i>"Not many egg-stealers are willing to risk being stuck by the sharp spines."</i></p>

## GQ: How do I identify the main idea?



## How Birds Beat the Odds

by Charles C. Hofer

- 1 Raising a nest of young **birds** is a lot of work. Parent **birds** have to keep their eggs **safe** from **predators**, shelter the chicks from weather, and find enough food for all those hungry mouths. Different kinds of **birds** do these things in different ways. But they all face the same challenge: making sure that there's a next generation of **birds**.

### The More, the Merrier

- 2 The Gambel's **quail** lives in the deserts of the American Southwest. These ground-dwelling birds usually lay 10 to 12 **eggs** at a time in a shallow nest. That's a lot of tiny mouths to feed.
- 3 Gambel's quail **chicks** don't need much attention. Just hours after hatching, they're up and running. And they'd better be quick! These birds are a favorite **prey** of desert hunters like bobcats, snakes, and hawks. This means that only a few chicks will **survive** to be adults. By laying lots of **eggs**, adult quails increase the chances that at least some of their young will grow up to lay **eggs** themselves.

### Try, Try Again

- 4 American robins are common backyard **birds**. They also lay many **eggs**—but not all at once. Instead, robins raise two to four batches of **eggs** over the summer.
- 5 Robins build cup-shaped nests that hungry **predators** like snakes or raccoons can easily raid. Building several nests in a season instead of just once makes it more likely that at least one clutch will **survive** to become adult robins.

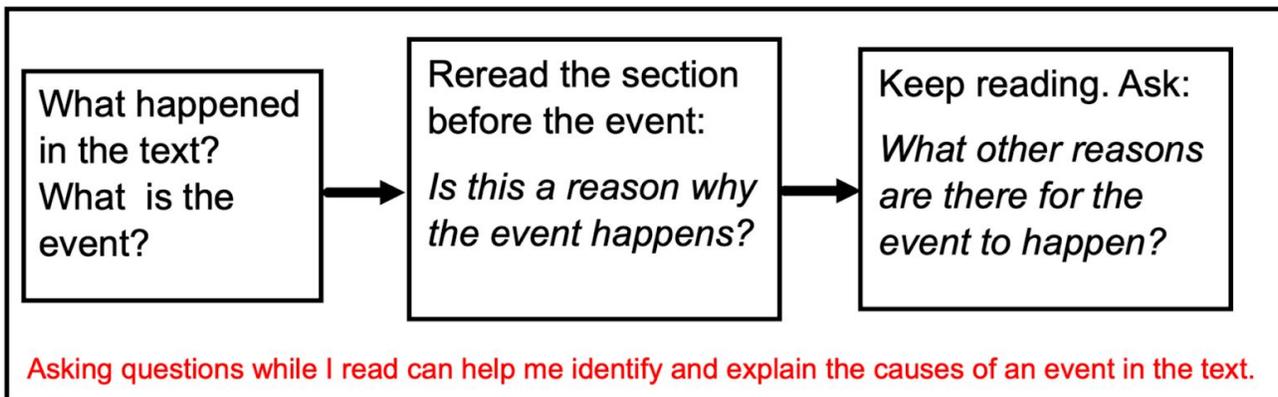
### Spiny Hideaway

- 6 Many **birds** try to improve their **eggs'** chances by hiding their nests. The Gila woodpecker has found a great hiding place—inside the giant saguaro cactus. This woodpecker drills a hole in the cactus, where she lays about six eggs. Not many **egg-stealers** are willing to risk being stuck by the sharp spines.

### Example:

The main idea of “How Birds Beat the Odds” is that birds have many different ways to protect their babies from predators so that the babies survive to be adults. In paragraph 1, it says “Different kinds of birds do these things in different ways. But they all face the same challenge: making sure that there’s a next generation of birds.” In paragraph 3, it says “By laying lots of eggs, adult quails increase the chances that at least some of their young will grow up to lay eggs themselves.”

## GQ: How can I identify the causes of an event in a text?

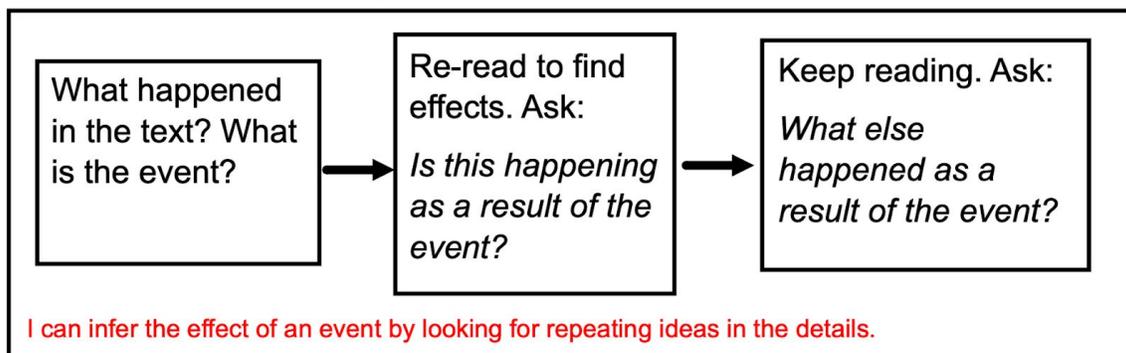


### Example for CAUSES:

GQ: According to “Making the Call”, why is communication important to meerkats? Use two details from the text to support your response.

Communication is important to meerkats because it helps them to stay safe. In paragraph 7, it says “A lookout gives a high-pitched call and everyone runs for the burrow.” Also in paragraph 8, it says “One call might mean, ‘Look danger on the ground.’ Another might mean, ‘Look, danger in the air.’” Therefore, the meerkats need communication to alert each other.

## GQ: How can I identify the effects of an event in a text?

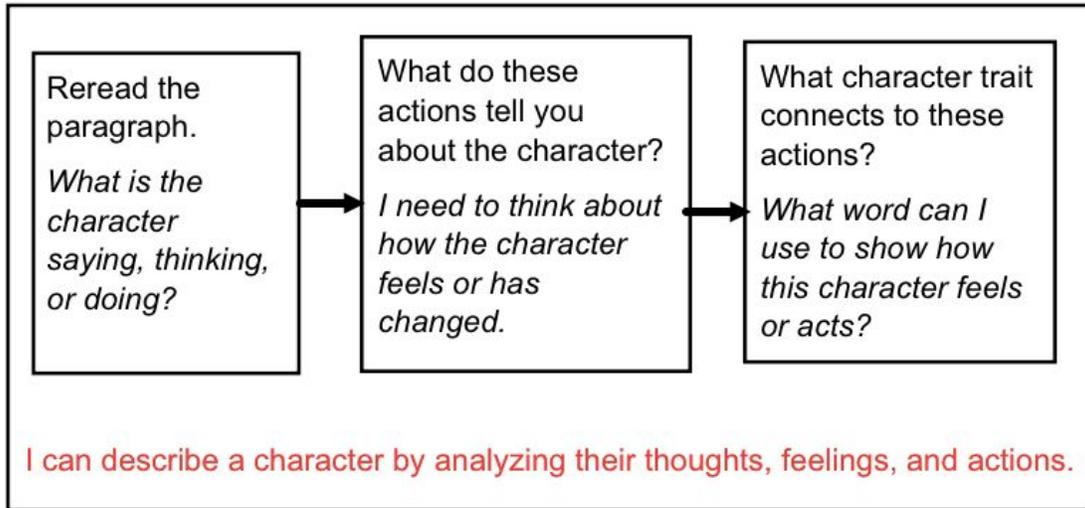


### Example for EFFECTS:

GQ: How have researchers like Simon Townsend affected what we understand about meerkats? Use two details to support your response.

Researchers like Simon Townsend affect what we understand about meerkats by helping us know how they communicate. In paragraph 5, it says “They’re cracking the communication code to figure out what meerkats are saying - and how much they understand.” In paragraph 8, it says “We know a certain call is always made when they see something dangerous in the air or on the ground.” Therefore, this shows that the scientists are learning about how meerkats can communicate with each other.

GQ: How can I describe a character?



**Example One:**

GQ: In “*One Day and One Amazing Morning on Orange Street*” what does paragraph 3 show about Ms. Snoops? Use two details from the text to support your response.

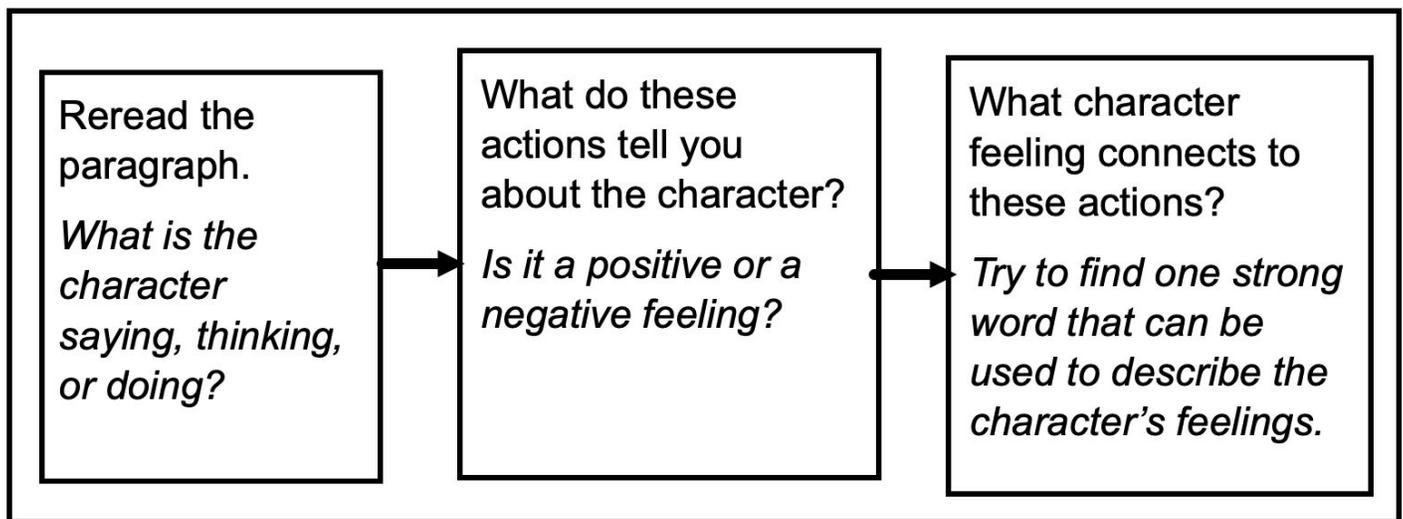
In “*One Day and One Amazing Morning on Orange Street*” Ms. Snoops is very forgetful. In paragraph 3 it says, “I wrote this note to myself, just so I wouldn’t forget.” Also in paragraph 3, it says “I’m embarrassed to tell you I can’t remember what the “M” is for.” This shows that Ms. Snoops’ does not have a good memory. Therefore, Ms. Snoops realizes she is always forgetting things.

**Example Two:**

GQ: In “Excerpt from *Hattie Big Sky*”, what do paragraphs 18 and 19 show about Hattie? Use two details from the story to support your response.

Paragraphs 18 and 19 show that Hattie is a hardworking person. For example, in paragraph 8, it says “Hours of practice had turned me into a proficient but slow fence builder.” Also, in paragraph 9, it says “I tidied up the chicken coop and got it ready for it’s new residents.” Therefore, this shows that Hattie is a hardworking person because she is doing so much to prepare the chicken coop for the new chickens.

## GQ: How can I tell how a character feels about a topic?



### **Example One:**

GQ: In paragraphs 10-12 of “*Wheels of Change*,” how does Emily feel about watching the motion picture? Use two details from the text to support your response.

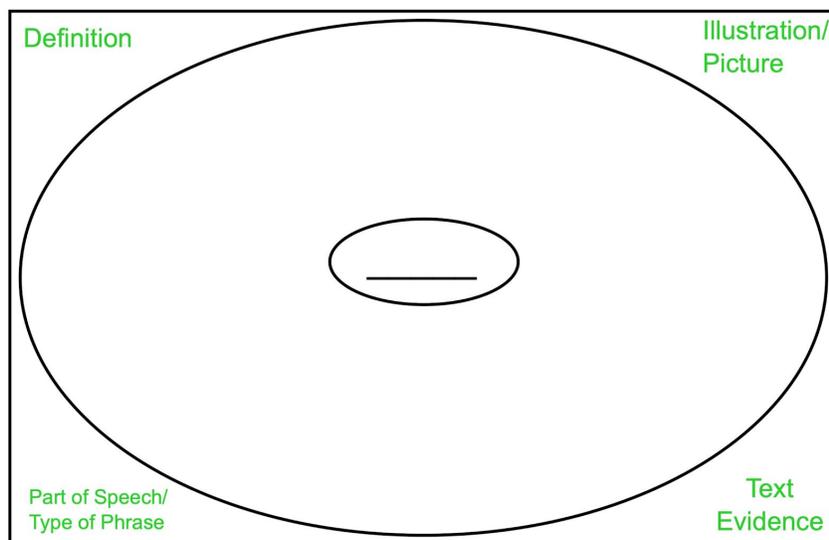
Emily is feeling excited about watching the motion picture. For example, in paragraph 11, it says “I’m dizzy, wide-eyed and breathless, watching it all.” Also, in paragraph 12 it says “the sights make me want to jump from my seat, but the piano music makes me want to dance, soar, and fly.” Therefore, this shows a positive feeling and that she is enjoying the experience of the motion picture.

### **Example Two:**

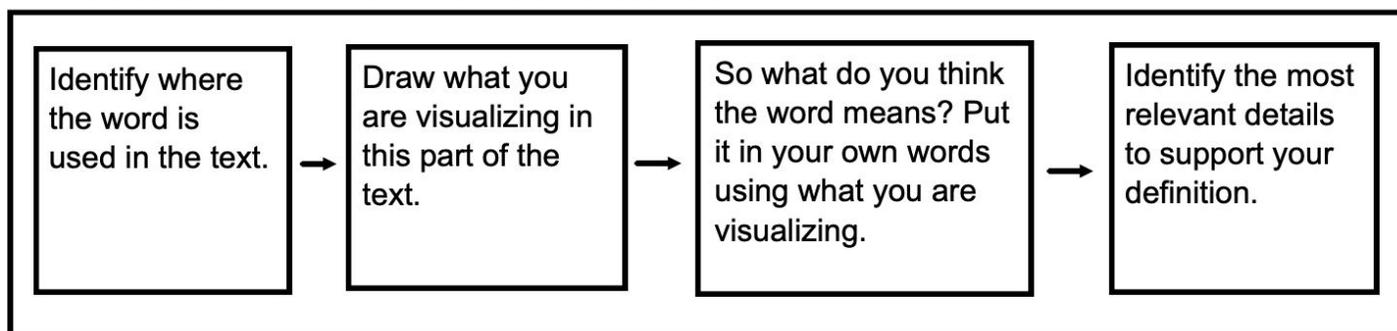
GQ: How does Ali feel about Ms. Snoops in “*One Day and One Amazing Morning on Orange Street*”? Use two details from the text to support your response.

In “*One Day and One Amazing Morning on Orange Street*” Ali has a lot of respect for Ms. Snoops. In paragraph 15 it says, “How nice that you remember that,” This shows that Ali appreciates Ms. Snoops’ memory. Also in paragraph 25, it says “It’s been a lot of fun” This shows that Ali enjoys spending time with Ms. Snoops. Therefore, Ali has respect for her neighbor, Ms. Snoops.

GQ: What is the meaning of the word/phrase " \_\_\_\_\_ " ?



GQ: How can I define words in a text?



**EXAMPLE ONE:**

GQ: What does the word "winded" mean as it is used in paragraph 24 of "Into the Rapids"? Use two details from the article to support your response.

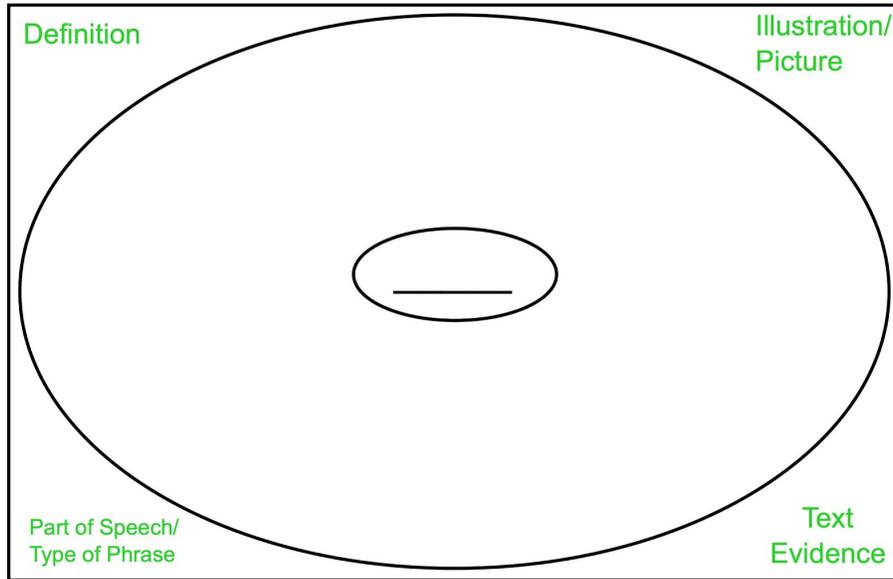
The word "winded" means he is too tired. In paragraph 22, it says he was "using every last ounce of energy to get out of the water." Also, when he did get out of the water, "he collapsed in a shaking heap." He needed to recover before he could continue, and therefore this means that he was too tired to speak.

**EXAMPLE TWO:**

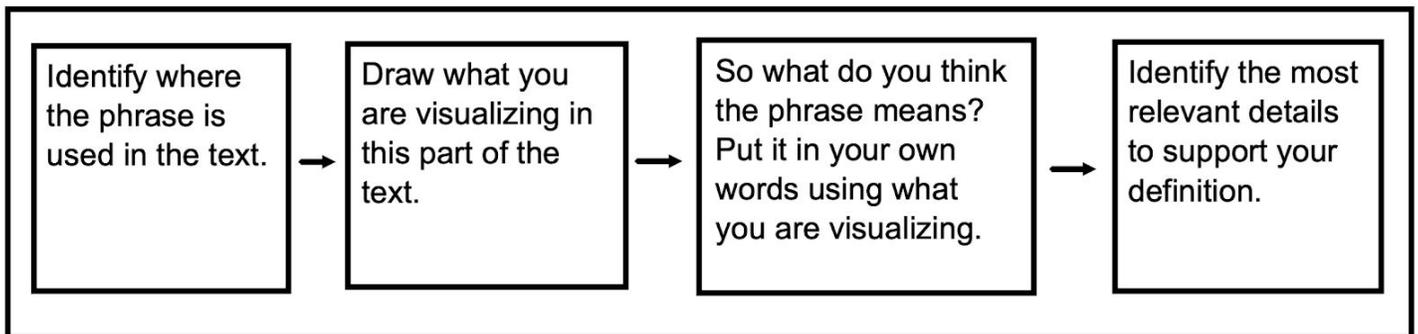
GQ: In paragraph 5 of "How Birds Beat the Odds" what does the word "clutch" mean? Use two details from the article to support your response.

Clutch means a group of robin eggs. In paragraph 4, it says "robins raise two to four batches of eggs over the summer." This shows they lay many sets of eggs. In paragraph 5, it says "Building several nests in a season instead of just once makes it more likely at least one clutch will survive." This shows they have many sets of eggs so one group will survive. Therefore, a clutch is one group of robin eggs.

GQ: What is the meaning of the word/phrase " \_\_\_\_\_ " ?



GQ: How can I define phrases in a text?



**EXAMPLE ONE:**

GQ: Why does the author say “strength in numbers is a survival skill”? Use two details from the article to support your response.

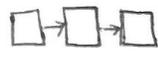
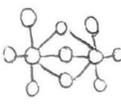
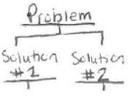
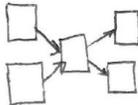
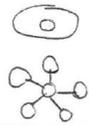
“Strength in numbers is a survival skill” means being in a mob helps the meerkats survive. For example, when the baby meerkat was in danger, “the urgent call alerts his family, which runs to his rescue.” In addition, the goshawk flew away because there were too many meerkats. Therefore, if the meerkats are in a large group, they have a better chance to survive.

**EXAMPLE TWO:**

GQ: In paragraph 11 of the story what does Rachel mean when she says "like the part of me that's three wants to come out of my eyes?" Use two details from the text to support your response.

The phrase “like the part of me that's three wants to come out of my eyes” means that Rachel feels like she wants to cry like a three year old. In the text it states that she is feeling sick inside and that she needs to bite down on her teeth real hard. Therefore, Rachel is holding in her tears because she doesn’t want to cry in front of everyone and feel like a little kid.

**Text Structures Reference Sheet**

Chronological (Sequential) Order	Compare and Contrast	Problem and Solution	Cause and Effect	Description
				
Describes something in order. Can be in the order of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>time (beginning to end)</li> <li>steps (how to do something)</li> </ul>	Shows how two or more things are like and/or how they are different.	Tells about a problem (and sometimes says why there is a problem) then gives one or more possible solutions.	Cause is why something happened. Effect is what happened as a result of something else. (Sometimes the effect is listed first)	A topic, idea, person, place, or thing is described by listing its features, characteristics, or examples.
SIGNAL WORDS				
First Second Next Then Before After Finally Following Not long after Now Soon	Same as Similar Alike As well as Not only...but also Both Instead of Either...or On the other hand Different from As opposed to Compared to..	Question is... Dilemma is... The puzzle is... To solve this... One answer is... One reason for the problem is...	So Because Since Therefore If...then This led to Reason why As a result May be due to Effect of Consequently For this reason	For instance Such as... To begin with An example To illustrate Characteristics *Look for the topic word (or a synonym or pronoun) to be repeated

**EXAMPLE ONE:**

GQ: How did the author organize the information in “Dust Bowl Migration” Use two details from the text to support your response.

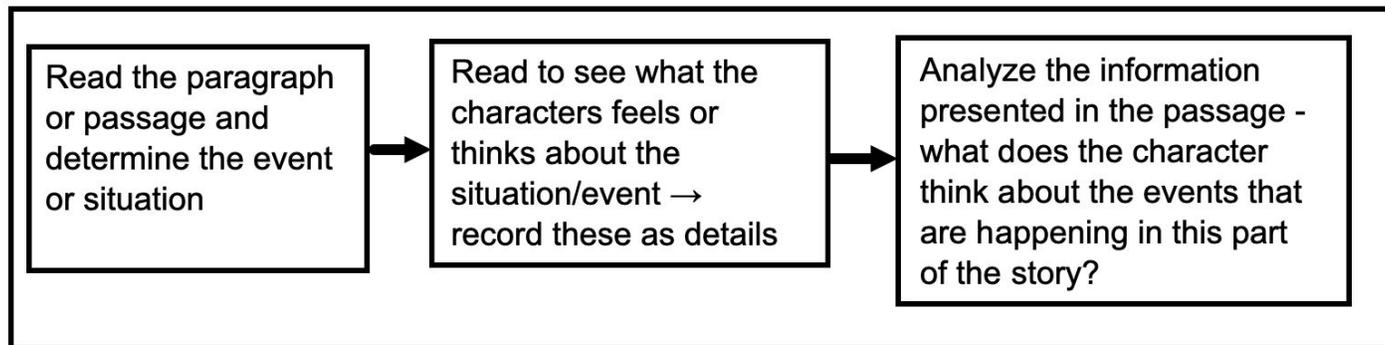
The author organized the information in “Dust Bowl Migration” using an order and sequence text structure. For example, in paragraph 2 it says “But in 1931, a great drought hit the United States.” Also, in paragraph 4 it says “Two and a half million migrant people left the Dust Bowl for California, Oregon, Washington, and other states in the 1930s.” Therefore, this shows the author used order and sequences to tell the events of what happened over time during the Dust Bowl.

**EXAMPLE TWO:**

How did the author organize the information in paragraphs 1 through 5 of “A Life’s Work”? Use two details from the text to support your response.

The author organized the information using an order and sequence text structure. For example, in paragraph 1 of “A Life’s Work” it says “ In 1960 a little girl named Ruby Bridges was enrolled in the first-grade class of William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans, Louisiana” Furthermore, in paragraph 4 it says “The protests eventually died down, and Ruby finished her first grade year in June 1961.” Therefore, this shows the author used order and sequence to tell the events of Ruby’s first year.

## GQ: How can I determine a character's perspective?



### **EXAMPLE ONE:**

GQ: What does paragraph 1 of “Because of Winn-Dixie” show about Opal’s point of view? Use two details from the story to support your response.

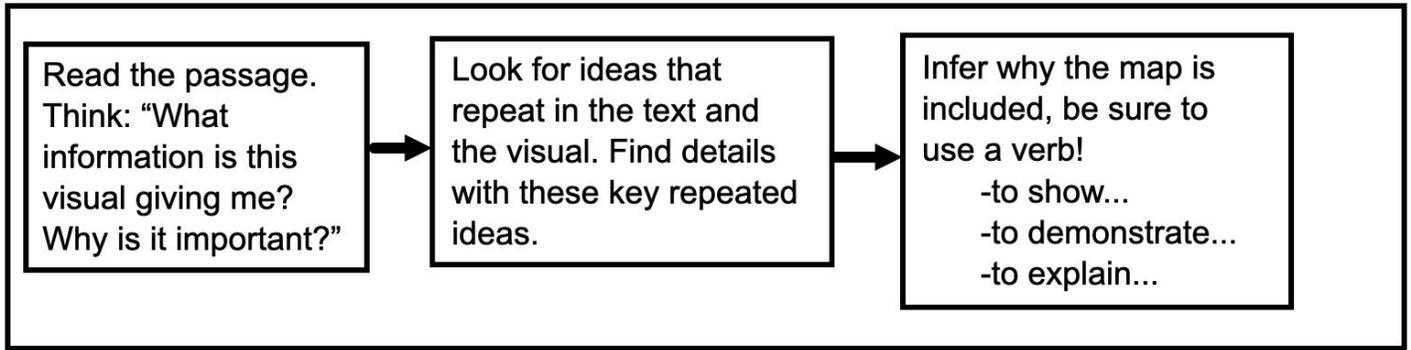
In paragraph 1, Opal’s point of view is she loves her dad but feels he isn’t around a lot because he is always preaching. She states, “That summer I found Winn-Dixie was also the summer me and the preacher moved to Naomi, Florida, so he could be the new preacher at the Open Arms Baptist Church of Naomi.” Also, Opal states, “And so, in my mind, I think of him as “the preacher.” This shows Opal is lonely and wished the preacher would spend more time with her instead of preaching.

### **EXAMPLE TWO:**

GQ: What does paragraph 5 of “Lost on Ellis Island” show about Emily’s point of view? Use two details from the story to support your response.

In paragraph 6, Emily’s point of view is she doesn’t want to go to any more museums while on vacation. The narrator explains that “In that time, they’d done nothing but walk, walk, walk and visit more museums than she could count.” Also, the narrator states, “Between all the museums and crushing July heat, Emily was nearly asleep on her feet as they walked onto Ellis Island.” These details show that Emily was bored and tired of going to museums while in New York with her family.

## GQ: How can I determine how a text feature contributes to a text?



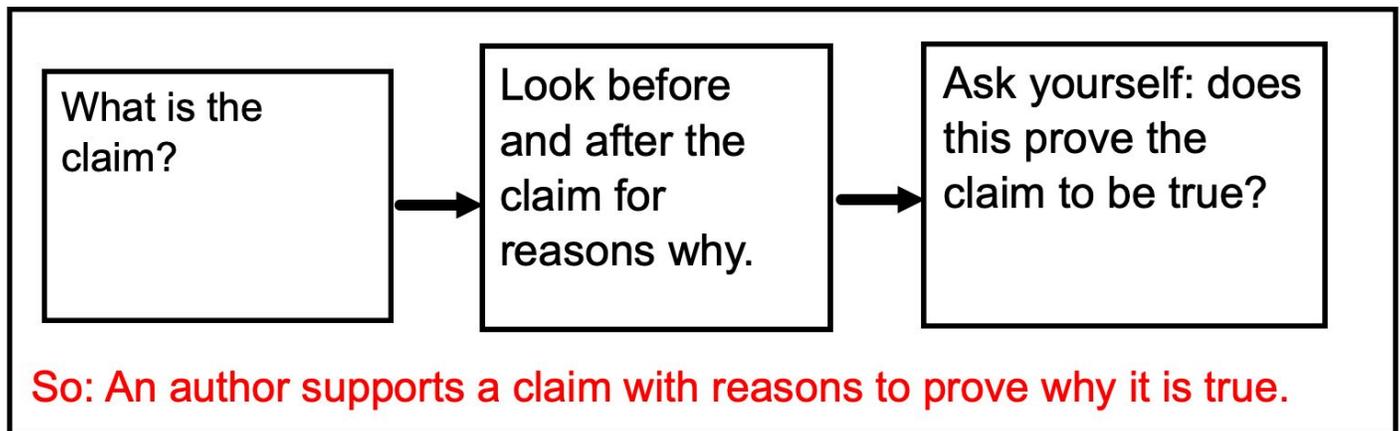
### **EXAMPLE:**

GQ: How does the map contribute to the understanding of "*The Pony Express: delivering mail on horseback in the Old West*"? Use two details from the text to support your response.

The map contributes to the understanding of the article by showing how far the Pony Express riders had to travel. The author states in paragraph 4, "Around 80 riders and between 400 to 500 horses carried mail from the Midwest to the new state of California." In addition, the map shows the route Pony Express riders took from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California. Therefore, the map shows that the Pony Express route went halfway across the country.



GQ: How can I explain an author's claims using relevant details?



**EXAMPLE ONE:**

GQ: How do mountain bikers use special skills to improve their time on the trails? Use two details from the article to support your response.

Mountain bikers use special skills to improve their time on the trails because they help keep the riders safe. In paragraph 6, it says “Maneuvering your bike on off-road trails calls for skills not usually used around your neighborhood.” Also in paragraph 6, it says “On a trail, a wheelie might be the best way to get over a fallen log.” Therefore, the special skills that mountain bikers have help to keep them safe on the trails.

**EXAMPLE TWO:**

GQ: How do the zookeepers use food to improve the lives of animals? Use two details from the article to support your response.

The zookeepers use food to improve the lives of animals by making them feel like they are in the wild. The zookeepers hide apple slices and sweet potatoes for the muskrats to hunt. The zookeepers also hang giant lifesavers made of bananas, apples, and carrots on the ceiling for the giraffes to eat. Therefore, the food helps