



Answering Questions

Information questions begin with a question word like WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, WHICH, and HOW. If the helping verb after the question word is DO, DOES, or DID (simple present or simple past), you will not use these words in the answer (unless the verb is negative).

Examples:

→ **Who was** Albert Einstein?

Albert Einstein **was** a world-famous scientist.

→ **What** are the main ingredients of mayonnaise?

The main ingredients of mayonnaise **are** soybean oil, whole eggs, vinegar, water, egg yolks, salt, and sugar.

→ **What** kind of weather **can** lower intelligence?

Very hot weather **can** lower intelligence.

→ **Where** did Andy Jones take his vacation?

Andy Jones took his vacation **on** a small Caribbean island.

→ **When** do people in the Northeast tend to have heart attacks?

People in the Northeast tend to have heart attacks **in** February or March.

→ **Why** don't people in Los Angeles give directions in miles?

People in Los Angeles don't give directions in miles **because** they measure distance in time.

→ **Which** medicine is used for a sore throat?

Chloraseptic **is** used for a sore throat.

→ **How** do Greeks sometimes give directions?

Greeks sometimes give directions **by** asking you to follow them.

→ **How many** calories **does** a typical North American **eat** every day?

A typical North American *eats* an average of **3,300 calories every day**



Providing Evidence

Always prove your response by providing evidence from the text. Make the evidence part of a sentence by adding a clause to introduce your evidence. Always use quotation marks to indicate the beginning and the end of your quote and remember to let your reader know where the evidence is from. Ways to introduce your evidence:



Clause to introduce the evidence	Genre you are reading
The character says...	Fiction
The narrator explains (states, describes)...	Fiction
The speaker describes (states) ...	Poetry
On stanza ____, the speaker uses (insert type of figurative language)...	Poetry
The author states...	Nonfiction
On page ____, the author explains	Nonfiction
On page ____ ...	Fiction / nonfiction
According to paragraph ____,	Fiction / nonfiction

Building your Answer

The easiest way to build your answer is using the REST strategy.

- R** - Rewrite the question and respond with your claim.
- E** - Provide evidence to support your claim.
- S** - Explain the significance of your response.
- T** - Tie it up with a concluding sentence.

These are possible ways to start your sentences, based on which part of the REST strategy you are writing.			
R	When you respond to the question, make sure to do it in a complete sentence.	Use parts of the question to create your response.	
E	When you add evidence , make sure to do it as part of a sentence.	On page... According to the text... The author states...	The character says... The speaker describes...
S	When you explain the significance of your evidence, be sure to do it as part of a sentence.	Because of this... This demonstrates... This means... This reveals...	This illustrates... This highlights... By saying this, the character...
T	You tie up your paragraph by wrapping up the topic since it won't be discussed again.	In conclusion... Clearly, ... Therefore, ... Thus, ...	All things considered, ... AS shown above, ... Given these points, ...

Steps to Answer Questions

1. Read the question carefully. Determine what it is that you must answer.
2. Review the passage to assist you in answering the question.
3. Answer the question in your head.
4. Choose the evidence that will prove your answer.
5. Write the answer using the RESEST strategy.

EXAMPLE:

What is the theme of the text? Use textual evidence to support your answer.

The theme of the text “Wait For You” is how you should always be there for your friends when times get tough. According to the story, the narrator stated that, “When there’s nothing left, you know I’ll still be around and if all of this is dragging you under, I’ll remind you of the world and its wonder”. This shows the writer is pledging that they will be there for his friend even through tough times just to remind them of how good the world really is. The narrator also states, “When everything is dragging me under, you remind me of the world and its wonder”. This reveals that just as the writer does for their friend, their friend does for them: stay and help each other through tough times. Therefore, the theme of the text “Wait For Me” is how the writer and their friend will be there for each other even when times are difficult.