

Answer Questions in Short Answer Format:

When we answer short answer questions in a paragraph, we must:

- 1) Answer the question
- 2) Provide an example from the text that illustrates our answer
- 3) Explain how the example/quote from the text proves our answer
- 4) Explain what this information does for the reader: how it drives the story forward.

This chart explains how our paragraph should be organized:

TS	Topic Sentence	This should answer the question directly in your own words.	Don't say 'I think' or 'I believe' just answer the question. .
CD	Concrete Detail	This is a fact. An example from the text that illustrates (shows) what you said in your topic sentence.	You might start this sentence with "For Example, the text states..."
CM	Commentary	This is your opinion on how the example you provided proves what you are saying. Explain the quoted text.	You might start with "This shows..."
CM	Commentary	Another sentence that explains how the example you provided proves what you are saying.	"This also shows, or additionally or furthermore..."
CS	Closing Sentence	This should explain how the example you chose answers the questions and what it teaches the reader about the story.	"Because of this..." or "As a result, the reader..."

Or like this: "Question #1) Why does Billy Weaver walk 'briskly' down the street?"

TS: In *The Landlady*, by Roald Dahl, Billy Weaver walks briskly because he is trying to be like the other successful businessmen in his office.

CD: For example, in lines 35-40 the text states "He was trying to do everything briskly these days. Briskness, he had decided, was the one common characteristic of all successful businessmen. The big shots up at Head Office were absolutely fantastically brisk all the time."

CM: This shows that Billy wants to be successful himself, and is trying to be like the older men in his office who he looks up to.

CS: As a result, the readers learns that Billy is young, earnest and hard-working, and seems to trust and admire adults.