

Text Dependent Analysis Essays- TDA

What is it?

- It is an essay, so it has an: **introduction, paragraphs of support, and conclusion.**
- But it is text dependent. This means that you must support your ideas with **specific details from the the text.**
- Requires students to provide **explicit and implicit evidence** from the text and to **draw inferences** based on what the text says in order to **support an analysis.**

Must be written in 3rd person point of view. Don't use the pronoun I.

INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH

- Start with a lead that briefly **summarizes** what you have read. (1 sentence)
- Write your thesis. Your thesis restates the prompt with your answers. (1 sentence)



1st PARAGRAPH OF SUPPORT/ 1st ANSWER

- **Explain** the first answer from your thesis. Make sure you **ACE** it!
- 5-8 sentences



2nd PARAGRAPH OF SUPPORT/ 2nd ANSWER

- **Explain** the second answer from your thesis. Make sure you **ACE** it
- 5-8 sentences



3rd PARAGRAPH OF SUPPORT/ 3RD ANSWER

- **Explain** the third answer from your thesis. Make sure you **ACE** it
- 5-8 sentences



CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH

- Restate your thesis. (1 sentence)
- Leave the reader with some thought to consider. (1 sentence)

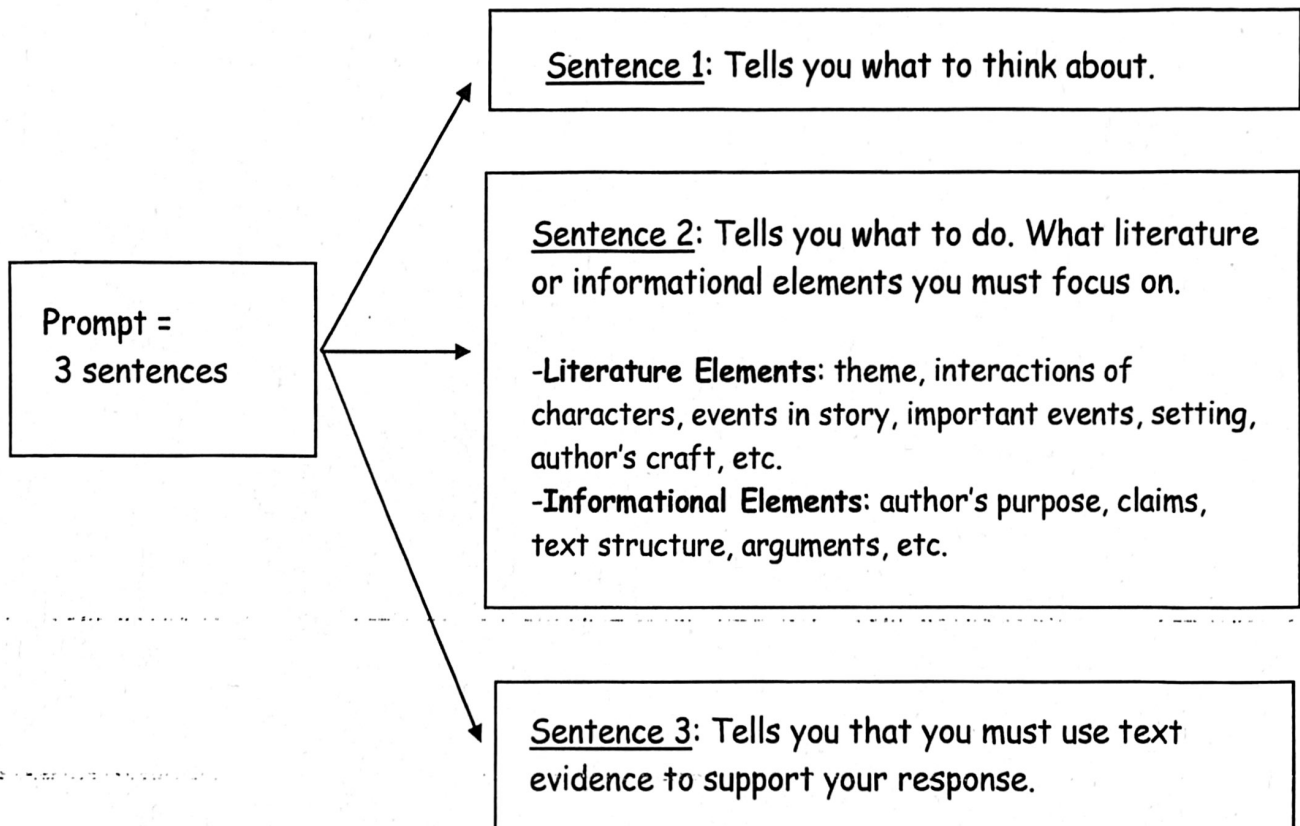
TDA Essays: Steps to Success

- Step 1: Read prompt carefully.
- Step 2: Read and analyze text(s).
- Step 3: Answer the prompt.
- Step 4: Plan and organize.
- Step 5: Write introduction paragraph.
- Step 6: Write paragraphs of support.
- Step 7: Write concluding paragraph.
- Step 8: Revise and edit.



Step 1: READ PROMPT CAREFULLY

- Read prompt carefully.
- Read multiple times.
- Underline, highlight, or write down key ideas.

**Prompt Example:**

The passage and poem address a similar theme. Write an essay analyzing how the passage and the poem develop this theme. Use evidence from both the passage and poem to support your response.

Step 2: READ & ANALYZE TEXT(S)

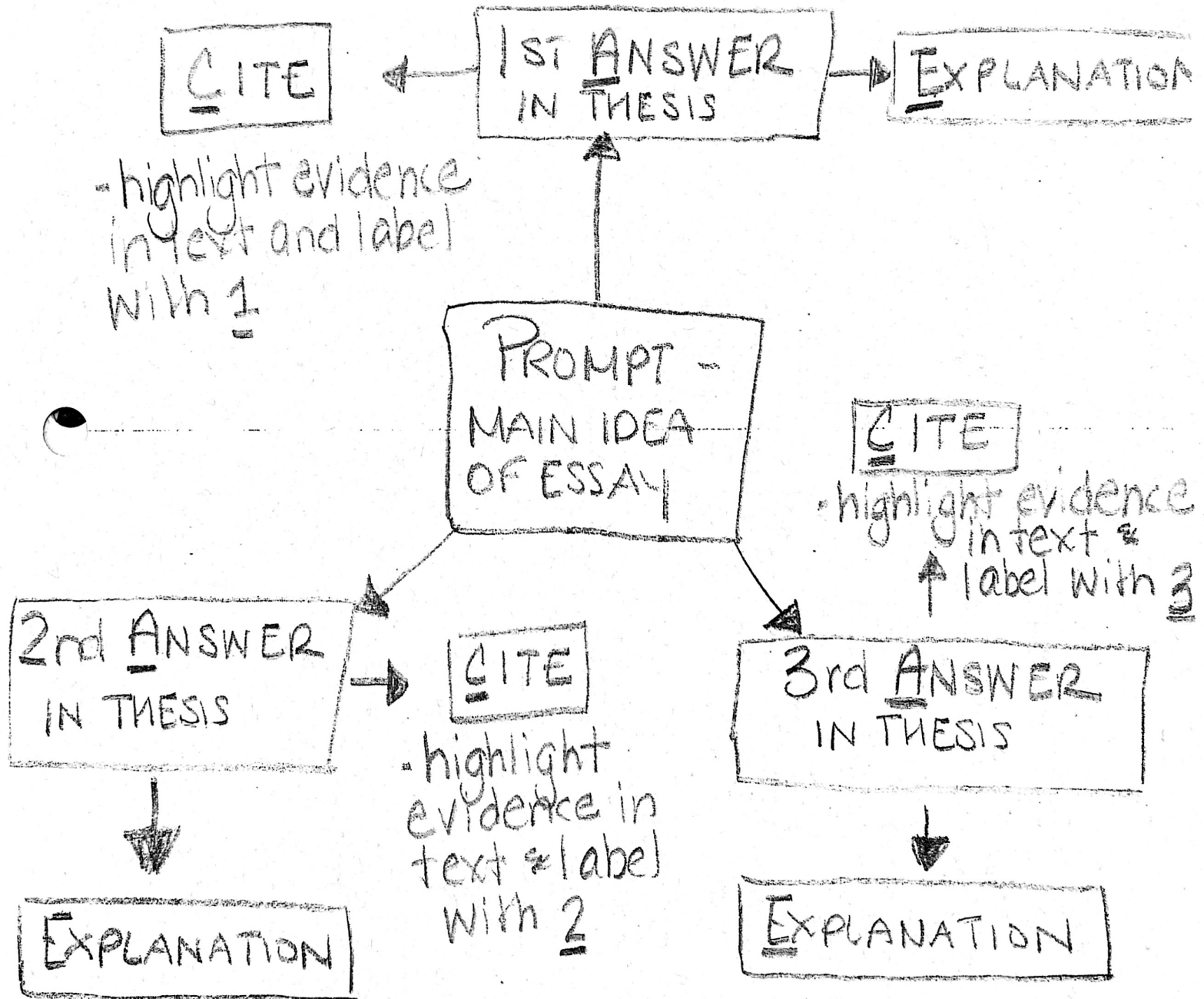
- Read the text.
- During reading, talk to the text, highlight, and use any other reading strategies.
- Focus on the elements to be analyzed in the question. HINT... this is found in the 2nd sentence of the prompt.

Step 3: ANSWER THE PROMPT

- Write your response next to the prompt.
- Hint... reread prompt and make sure it answers the question being asked.

Step 4: PLAN & ORGANIZE

- Create a graphic organizer to help organize your ideas.
- Go back into the text(s) and highlight the details that you will use to support your responses.



Step 5: Write Introduction Paragraph

- 2 sentences
- Begins with a **lead**: 1 sentence
- Ends with a **thesis**: 1 sentence

Prompt:

Authors use various techniques when developing and explaining the motivations of characters. Write an essay analyzing how the author of "The Raft" reveals Dewey's character and his motivations throughout the passage. Use evidence from the passage to support your response.

Introduction Paragraph:

In "The Raft" by Betsy Byars, the author uses many techniques to develop and explain the motivations of characters. Dewey's character and motivation is revealed through flashback, dialogue, and his actions.

How do I write a LEAD?

1. Summarize the first sentence of the prompt.
2. Include the title(s) and author(s).
3. 1 sentence

Example of a LEAD:

In "The Raft" by Betsy Byars, the author uses many techniques to develop and explain the motivations of characters.

Practice:

1. **Prompt:** In the passage "Two Amazing Tales of Memory," the concept of memory is discussed. Write an essay analyzing the effect that Mr. S's memory had on his life. Use evidence from the passage to support your response.

2. **Prompt:** The author Ernest Thayer of "Casey at the Bat" uses humor to describe Casey's experience. Write an essay analyzing whether the author's techniques are successful or not. Be sure to include textual evidence to support your analysis.

What is a THESIS?

- It tells the reader the main idea of your essay.
- Tells the reader what you had to do.

How do I write a THESIS?

1. Restate the 2nd sentence in the prompt.
2. With 2-3 gist (general) Answers.
3. 1 sentence ONLY

Example of a THESIS:

Prompt: Authors use various techniques when developing and explaining the motivations of characters. Write an essay analyzing how the author of "The Raft" reveals Dewey's character and his motivations throughout the passage. Use evidence from the passage to support your response.

Thesis: Dewey's character and motivation is revealed through flashback, dialogue, and his actions.

Practice:

1. Should cell phones be banned in schools? Use evidence from the articles to support your response.

2. Think about a teacher that has impacted your life. Write an essay that explains the impact the teacher had on your life.

3. Should homework be given in school? Write a persuasive essay explaining your reasons.

Step 6: ACE Paragraphs of Support

- Explain your answers from your thesis.
- 5-8 sentences in each paragraph
- Make sure you ACE it!

Topic Sentence:

- Answer from your thesis sentence.

Supporting Details:

- Cite your evidence.
- Explain how your evidence supports your answer.

Concluding Sentence: Restate the topic sentence.

Prompt: In the novel, the topic of friendship is explored. Write an essay analyzing the character traits that make Billy a good friend. Use evidence from the novel to support your response. (Text: Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls)

Introduction Paragraph:

The novel Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls explores the idea of friendship. The character traits that make Billy a good friend are loyalty, bravery, and selflessness.

1st Paragraph of Support:

The first character trait that makes Billy a good friend is loyalty. In the story, the narrator explains, "There in the flinty hills of the Ozarks, I fought for the lives of my dogs. I fought with the only weapon I had, the sharp cutting blade of a double-bitted ax." This proves that Billy is loyal to his dogs because he could have easily backed down from the fight, and had his dogs fight the battle themselves, so he would not get hurt. A loyal friend is someone who does not leave you in hard times, and Billy proves that he is loyal to his dogs. A character trait that makes Billy a good friend is loyalty because stands up for his dogs even in bad times.

<h1>A</h1>	<p><u>Answer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State the answer from your thesis sentence. ✓ Hint... Use key words from your thesis statement. ✓ Hint... This sentence is also known as your topic sentence. 	<p>The first character trait that makes Billy a good friend is loyalty.</p>
<h1>C</h1>	<p><u>Cite</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cite evidence from text to support your answer ✓ Hint... Must be written word for word directly from the text. ✓ Hint... Must use quotes. ✓ Must use signal phrase before quotes. 	<p>In the story, the narrator explains, "There in the flinty hills of the Ozarks, I fought for the lives of my dogs. I fought with the only weapon I had, the sharp cutting blade of a double-bitted ax."</p>
<h1>E</h1>	<p><u>Explain</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain how your evidence supports your answer ✓ Hint... There are 2 parts! And you must explain IT! <p><u>Inference:</u> Implicit information from the text; <u>state your inference</u></p> <p><u>Thinking:</u> Analysis- Explain your thinking; <u>why did you make the inference</u></p>	<p>This proves that Billy is loyal to his dogs because he could have easily backed down from the fight, and had his dogs fight the battle themselves so he would not get hurt. A loyal friend is someone who does not leave you in hard times, and Billy proves that he is loyal to his dogs.</p>
	<p>Concluding Sentence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restate the topic sentence and briefly answer WHY? 	<p>A character trait that makes Billy a good friend is loyalty because stands up for his dogs even in bad times.</p>

How to CITE evidence from text?

- You must use DIRECT QUOTES from the text. Written **WORD** for **WORD**.
- DIRECT QUOTES must be in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Use quotation marks.
2. Begin with a signal phrase.

The author stated, "..."

The text states, "..."

For example, the author says, "..."

According to the text, "..."

On page ____, it said, "..."

The article (name of article) states, "..."

In the story, the narrator explains, "..."

Example: In the story, the narrator explains, "There in the flinty hills of the Ozarks, I fought for the lives of my dogs. I fought with the only weapon I had, the sharp cutting blade of a double-bitted ax."

How to EXPLAIN IT?INFERENCE:

- Explain how the quote supports your inference.
- Begin with a signal phrase such as:

This shows ...

This means ...

This reveals ...

This illustration ...

This proves...

Example: This proves that Billy is loyal to his dogs because he could have easily backed down from the fight, and had his dogs fight the battle themselves so he would not get hurt.

THINKING:

- Explain why you made the inference.
- This is your prior knowledge; what you knew. Then connect your thinking back to your answer.

Example: A loyal friend is someone who does not leave you in hard times, and Billy proves that he is loyal to his dogs.

Step 7: Write Concluding Paragraph

- 2 sentences
- Restate the thesis sentence from the introduction paragraph.
- End with some thought-provoking comment about the topic/main idea. Can be an opinion, fact, recommendation, quote, question, etc.

Introduction Paragraph:

The novel Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls explores the idea of friendship. The character traits that make Billy a good friend are loyalty, bravery, and selflessness.

Example of Concluding Paragraph:

The character traits that make Billy a good friend are loyalty, bravery, and selflessness. Not only did Billy prove to be a good friend, but both his dogs proved to be loyal, brave, and selfless too.

Step 8: Revise and Edit

* Read OUTLOUD to Check for Errors

- ✓ Capitalization
- ✓ Spelling
- ✓ Sentence formation
- ✓ Punctuation
- ✓ Transition words

What are transition words?

- Helps move the reader from one thought to another or one idea to another.
- Ties idea together.

Where do I use transition words?

- At the beginning of paragraphs to help transition from paragraph to paragraph.
- Inside paragraphs to help transition from one thought to another.

Tips to Using Transition Words

- Don't overuse! You will not use a transition word with every sentence.
- Transition words are not "one size fits all."