



Master evidence-based responses

 SPARK YOUR NEXT STEPS

Create an evidence-rich classroom.

Require 2-part answers in the everyday classroom.

1. What is the answer?
2. How do you know it to be true?

Ask text-dependent questions.

Apply knowledge of DOK and QAR principles.

DOK 1 | Literal questions with **RIGHT-THERE** answers

ROBOTS

DOK 2 | Literal questions with **THINK & SEARCH** answers

DETECTIVES

DOK 3 | Inferential questions with **AUTHOR & ME** answers

JUDGES

DOK 4 | Inferential questions with **ON-MY-OWN** answers

INVENTORS

Mirror question formats with evidence expectations.

- Part A/Part B questions
- Multi-select answers
- Constructed-response prompts



RELEVANT RESOURCE

Close-Reading Questions



SECRET SITE RESOURCE

Troubleshoot evidence errors in reading responses.

Recognize the 4 common evidence errors that students commit.

1

Response lacks sufficient evidence.

2

Response relies solely on background knowledge.

3

Response includes irrelevant evidence.

4

Response lacks sufficient evidence.

EVIDENCE ERROR #1

RESPONSE LACKS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE

What is one character trait Eddie exhibits in “The Carpet Fitter”?
Support your answer with evidence from the story.

WEAK
SHORT
CONSTRUCTED
RESPONSE

Eddie is disgruntled. He seems tired and angry about doing the carpet fitting job.

STRONG
SHORT
CONSTRUCTED
RESPONSE

Eddie is disgruntled. In the first paragraph, the text states that no one ever appreciated his work, and he is sick of it.

Clarify the meaning of “sufficient.”

RECOGNIZE COMMON PROBLEMS:

- Required to select multiple answers (e.g., pick 2)— but stops at one.
- Required to use evidence from *all* sources— but only references one.
- Provides multiple text details— but they are redundant.

- Use specific examples from both articles to support your ideas.
- Support your response with evidence from each source.
- Be sure to use support from both texts in developing your response.
- Back up your claim with reasons and evidence from all sources.



SECRET SITE
RESOURCE



SCOOBY-DOO!



Prompt readers when their inferences are off track.

EVIDENCE ERROR #2

RELIES SOLELY ON BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Explain how Eddie’s behavior in paragraphs 3-7 affects the ending.
Support your answer with evidence from the story.

WEAK
SHORT
CONSTRUCTED
RESPONSE

Eddie realizes at the end of the story that he killed Mrs. Vanbrugh’s parakeet. Taking a hammer to any living creature that was stuck under a carpet would probably kill it. And it wouldn’t have been obvious that he was pounding a living bird because the carpet was red so the blood wouldn’t show. At the end of the story, Eddie figures out what happened.

STRONG
SHORT
CONSTRUCTED
RESPONSE

Eddie realizes at the end of the story that he killed Mrs. Vanbrugh’s parakeet, Armand. In paragraph 3, Eddie sees the lump and thinks it’s his missing cigarettes. In paragraph 6 and 7, Eddie uses a hammer to flatten out the lump. At the end of the story, Eddie finds his cigarettes on the dashboard and feels sick knowing what he did.

Clarify textual evidence versus background knowledge.

- Reference actual words or visible details within the text.
- Identify details you can see and touch.
- Put “eyeballs” on the text.



RELEVANT
RESOURCES



EVIDENCE ERROR #3 | INCLUDES IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE

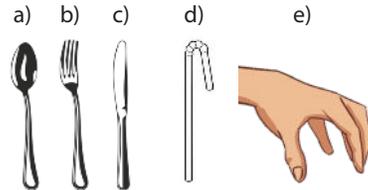
Define what makes evidence relevant.

- Details are relevant when they support the question.



SECRET SITE RESOURCE

What utensil would you use if you were _____?



What is his job?

- a) Clothing detail
- b) Tools detail
- c) Lunch detail
- d) Vehicle detail
- e) Setting detail
- f) Action detail

How does he feel?

- a) Clothing detail
- b) Hair style detail
- c) Body language detail
- d) Temperature detail
- e) Facial expression detail
- f) Setting detail

What season is it?

- a) Clothing detail
- b) Weather detail
- c) Sensory detail
- d) Activity detail
- e) Vehicle detail
- f) Hair-style detail

In paragraph 6, why does the author include the detail of Eddie using a block of wood? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

WEAK
SHORT
CONSTRUCTED
RESPONSE

The author has Eddie use a block of wood because that was one of the tools Eddie had in his toolbox. He kept beating and hoped Mrs. Vanbrugh wouldn't hear the noise. After a few minutes, the lump started to flatten out.

STRONG
SHORT
CONSTRUCTED
RESPONSE

The author has Eddie use a block of wood to protect the carpet. The phrase "didn't want to damage the carpet itself" means that Eddie was trying to make sure he didn't tear or mark up the carpet.

Distinguish between *evidence* and *just a detail*.

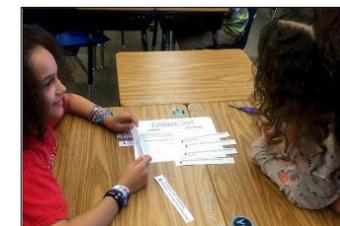
- All squares are _____, but all rectangles are not _____.
- All evidence is a _____, but all details are not _____.

Practice with *Evidence Sorts*.

- Provide a *T-Chart*.
- Provide an opinion/claim about the text.
- Provide numerous sentences from the text, each on its own piece of paper.
- Put students in pairs.

Opinion/Claim
Sentence 1 from the text.
Sentence 2 from the text.
Sentence 3 from the text.
Sentence 4 from the text.
Sentence 5 from the text.
Sentence 6 from the text.
Sentence 7 from the text.
Sentence 8 from the text.

EVIDENCE that supports the answer.	JUST A DETAIL from the original passage.



SECRET SITE RESOURCE

Discern details from evidence with the *Evidence Bag*.

EVIDENCE ERROR #4 | PROVIDES WEAK EVIDENCE

Clarify that all evidence is not equal.

Emphasize the need to read ALL answer choices.

STRATEGY 1
Rank the evidence.



SECRET SITE RESOURCE

Which detail *BEST* explains Eddie's attitude toward his job?

- a) "The job was done, and it was time for a last cigarette."
- b) "For 10 years he had spent his days sitting, squatting, kneeling, or crawling on floors."
- c) "Eddie was a carpet fitter, and he hated it."
- d) "When his work was done, no one ever appreciated it."

STRATEGY 2 | Assess all options for bullseye accuracy.



PART A

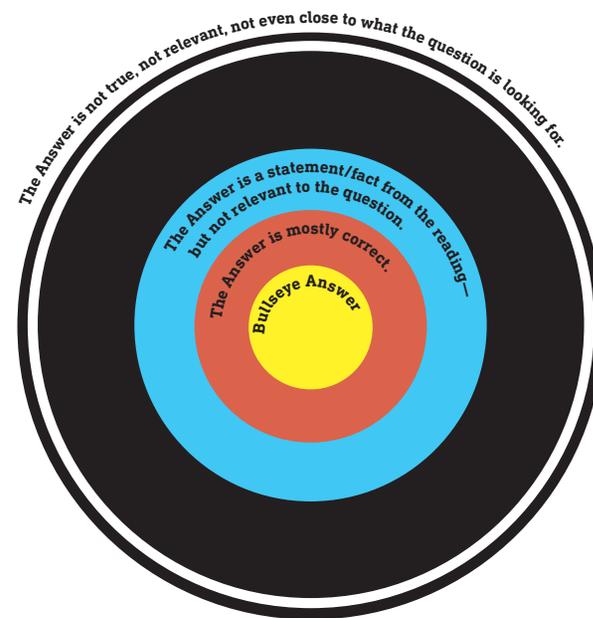
Which answer *BEST* describes Mrs. Vanbrugh's state of mind in paragraph 10?

- a) Mrs. Vanbrugh was longing for her parakeet.
- b) Mrs. Vanbrugh was frustrated by her parakeet.
- c) Mrs. Vanbrugh was proud of her parakeet.
- d) Mrs. Vanbrugh was concerned for her parakeet.

PART B

Which sentence from "The Carpet Fitter" supports your answer to Part A?

- a) "...While you were working today, you didn't by any chance see any sign of Armand, did you?"
- b) "Armand is my parakeet. A beautiful bird, just beautiful, such colors in his feathers."
- c) "He likes to walk around the house, and he's so good, he usually just comes back to his cage after an hour or so and gets right in."
- d) "He's never done such a thing before, it's most peculiar."



SECRET SITE RESOURCE

The Carpet Fitter, a common urban legend

- ¶1 Eddie was a carpet fitter, and he hated it. For ten years he had spent his days sitting, squatting, kneeling, or crawling on floors, in houses, offices, shops, factories, and restaurants. Ten years of his life, cutting and fitting carpets for other people to walk on, without even seeing them. When his work was done, no one ever appreciated it. No one ever said, “Oh, that’s a beautiful job, the carpet fits so neatly.” They just walked all over it. Eddie was sick of it.
- ¶2 He was especially sick of it on this hot, humid day in August, as he worked to put the finishing touches to today’s job. He was just cutting and fixing the last edge on a huge red carpet which he had fitted in the living room of Mrs. Vanbrugh’s house. Rich Mrs. Vanbrugh, who changed her carpets every year and always bought the best. Rich Mrs. Vanbrugh, who had never even given him a cup of tea all day and who made him go outside when he wanted to smoke. Ah well, it was four o’clock, and he had nearly finished. At least he would be able to get home early today. He began to day dream about the weekend, about the Saturday football game he always played for the local team, where he was known as “Ed the Head” for his skill in heading goals from corner kicks. Eddie sat back and sighed. The job was done, and it was time for a last cigarette. He began tapping the pockets of his overalls, looking for the new packet of Marlboro he had bought that morning. They were not there.
- ¶3 It was as he swung around to look in his toolbox for the cigarettes that Eddie saw the lump. Right in the middle of the brand new bright red carpet, there was a lump. A very visible lump. A lump the size of— the size of a packet of cigarettes.
- ¶4 “Blast!” said Eddie angrily. “I’ve done it again! I’ve left the cigarettes under the blasted carpet!”
- ¶5 He had done this once before, and taking up and refitting the carpet had taken him two hours. Eddie was determined that he was not going to spend another two hours in this house. He decided to get rid of the lump another way. It would mean wasting a good packet of cigarettes, nearly full, but anything was better than taking up the whole carpet and fitting it again. He turned to his toolbox for a large hammer.
- ¶6 Holding the hammer, Eddie approached the lump in the carpet. He didn’t want to damage the carpet itself, so he took a block of wood and placed it on top of the lump. Then he began to beat the block of wood as hard as he could. He kept beating, hoping Mrs. Vanbrugh wouldn’t hear the noise and come to see what he was doing. It would be difficult to explain why he was hammering the middle of her beautiful new carpet.
- ¶7 After three or four minutes, the lump was beginning to flatten out. Eddie imagined the cigarette box breaking up, and the crushed cigarettes spreading out under the carpet. Soon, he judged that the lump was almost invisible. Clearing up his tools, he began to move the furniture back into the living room, and he was careful to place one of the coffee tables over the place where the lump had been, just to make sure that no one would see the spot where his cigarettes had been lost. Finally, the job was finished, and he called Mrs. Vanbrugh from the dining room to inspect his work.
- ¶8 “Yes, dear, very nice,” said the lady, peering around the room briefly. “You’ll be sending me a bill, then?”
- ¶9 “Yes madam, as soon as I report to the office tomorrow that the job is done.” Eddie picked up his tools and began to walk out to the van. Mrs. Vanbrugh accompanied him. She seemed a little worried about something.
- ¶10 “Young man,” she began, as he climbed into the cab of his van, laying his toolbox on the passenger seat beside him, “while you were working today, you didn’t by any chance see any sign of Armand, did you? Armand is my parakeet. A beautiful bird, just beautiful, such colors in his feathers ... I let him out of his cage, you see, this morning, and he’s disappeared. He likes to walk around the house, and he’s so good, he usually just comes back to his cage after an hour or so and gets right in. Only today he didn’t come back. He’s never done such a thing before, it’s most peculiar ...”
- ¶11 “No, madam, I haven’t seen him anywhere,” said Eddie, as he reached to start the van.
- ¶12 And saw his packet of Marlboro cigarettes on the dashboard, where he had left it at lunchtime...
- ¶13 And remembered the lump in the carpet ...
- ¶14 And realized what the lump was ...
- ¶15 And remembered the hammering ...
- ¶16 And began to feel rather sick ...