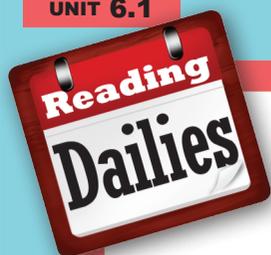




# Cite Text Evidence

- 1 Guided Close Reading
- 2 Make Inferences
- 3 Cite Text Evidence



## Cite Text Evidence

Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

## How To Make Inferences

An inference is an educated guess that is supported logically by the details in a text. When making an inference, you can also use outside knowledge and experience.

### To make an inference:

- Closely read the text.
- Pay attention to details.
- Apply prior knowledge about the topic.
- Consider the narrator's tone.
- Ask, "What do these details, plus my prior knowledge, tell me about the topic?"

## How To Cite Text Evidence

When you make an inference or analyze a text, you need to cite text evidence to support your ideas.

To cite text evidence, make an inference or analysis based on the text, and identify sections of the text that support your idea. Then quote the text exactly, using quotation marks.



# 1. Guided Close Reading

**To understand complex texts, you need to do close reading. An important part of close reading is reading and rereading a text. With each reading, you gain a deeper understanding of the text.**

Follow the steps to complete a close reading of this excerpt from *Anne of Green Gables*.

**Read the passage. Then answer the questions.**

from *Anne of Green Gables*  
by L. M. Montgomery

Marilla looked at Anne and softened at the sight of the child's pale face with its look of mute misery—the misery of a helpless little creature who finds itself once more caught in the trap from which it had escaped. Marilla felt an uncomfortable conviction that, if she denied the appeal of that look, it would haunt her to her dying day. Moreover, she did not fancy Mrs. Blewett. To hand a sensitive, "highstrung" child over to such a woman! No, she could not take the responsibility of doing that!

"Well, I don't know," she said slowly. "I didn't say that Matthew and I had absolutely decided that we wouldn't keep her. In fact I may say that Matthew is disposed to keep her. I just came over to find out how the mistake had occurred. I think I'd better take her home again and talk it over with Matthew. I feel that I oughtn't to decide on anything without consulting him. If we make up our mind not to keep her we'll bring or send her over to you tomorrow night. If we don't you may know that she is going to stay with us. Will that suit you, Mrs. Blewett?"

**A** What is this passage about?

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## 1. Guided Close Reading *continued*

Reread to use information from the text and prior knowledge to make an inference.

**B** How does Marilla feel about the situation?

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Cite text evidence to support your inference.

**➔** What information supports your inference? Highlight those phrases and sentences in the text.

**Does your response . . .**

- show understanding of the passage?
- answer what is asked for in the questions?
- use complete sentences and show command of the conventions of English?



## 2. Make Inferences

In some literature, main ideas and characterization are not presented directly or explicitly. Readers must make inferences about what they read, or “read between the lines” by asking, “What does the author mean?” and using prior knowledge.

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

from “**The Tell-Tale Heart**”  
by Edgar Allan Poe

TRUE!—nervous—very, very dreadfully nervous I had been and am; but why will you say that I am mad? The disease had sharpened my senses—not destroyed—not dulled them. Above all was the sense of hearing acute. I heard all things in the heaven and in the earth. I heard many things in hell. How, then, am I mad? Hearken! and observe how healthily—how calmly I can tell you the whole story.

It is impossible to say how first the idea entered my brain; but once conceived, it haunted me day and night. Object there was none. Passion there was none. I loved the old man. He had never wronged me. He had never given me insult. For his gold I had no desire. I think it was his eye! yes, it was this! He had the eye of a vulture—a pale blue eye, with a film over it. Whenever it fell upon me, my blood ran cold; and so by degrees—very gradually—I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and thus rid myself of the eye forever.

Now this is the point. You fancy me mad. Madmen know nothing. But you should have seen me. You should have seen how wisely I proceeded—with what caution—with what foresight—with what dissimulation I went to work! I was never kinder to the old man than during the whole week before I killed him.



Read the excerpt closely, and highlight important details about the narrator. Write three of them below in your own words.

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2. Make Inferences continued

**B** Choose one of the details you highlighted. What prior knowledge can you apply to this detail to help you understand the text?

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**C** What inference does this detail, along with prior knowledge, help you make?

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**Does your response ...**

- show understanding of the passage?
- answer what is asked for in the questions?
- use complete sentences and show command of the conventions of English?



### 3. Cite Text Evidence

**After reading literature and making inferences, be ready to cite text evidence. Ask yourself, “What parts of the text support my inferences?” Be sure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from the text.**

**Reread the passage. Then answer the questions.**

from **“The Tell-Tale Heart”**  
by Edgar Allan Poe

TRUE!—nervous—very, very dreadfully nervous I had been and am; but why will you say that I am mad? The disease had sharpened my senses—not destroyed—not dulled them. Above all was the sense of hearing acute. I heard all things in the heaven and in the earth. I heard many things in hell. How, then, am I mad? Hearken! and observe how healthily—how calmly I can tell you the whole story.

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Now this is the point. You fancy me mad. Madmen know nothing. But you should have seen me. You should have seen how wisely I proceeded—with what caution—with what foresight—with what dissimulation I went to work! I was never kinder to the old man than during the whole week before I killed him.

- A** Recall the inference about the narrator you made in the previous section. Write it below.

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3. Cite Text Evidence continued

**B** Which sections of the text support your inference?

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**C** Write a short analysis of the passage using your inference.  
Cite text evidence in your answer.

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**Does your response ...**

- show understanding of the passage?
- answer what is asked for in the questions?
- use complete sentences and show command of the conventions of English?



# Vocabulary

Term	Definition
acute	sharp or heightened
analyze	to examine the parts of something to better understand the whole
cite	to quote the exact words of a text
close reading	carefully examining each word, phrase, and sentence in a text
conceived	imagined
conviction	certainty or belief
dissimulation	deception or trickery
explicitly	openly and clearly
fancy [1]	like
fancy [2]	think
hearken	listen
highstrung	incredibly nervous or overly excitable
inference	a logical guess based on details in the text as well as personal experience
mad	insane
mute	silent or voiceless
text evidence	direct quotations or accurate descriptions of information from a text
tone	the author's attitude toward a topic
topic	the subject of a text