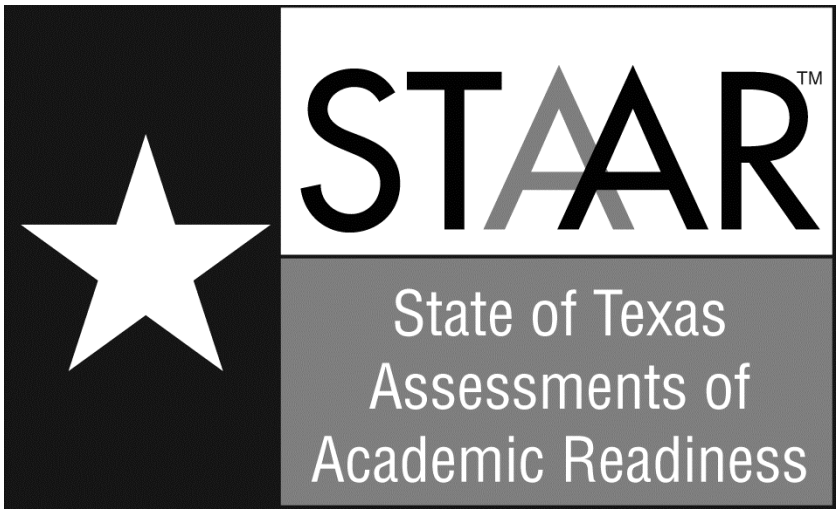


English III — Reading

Short Answer Rubric
Connecting Selections

Texas Education Agency
Student Assessment Division
Fall 2011

Score Point 0—Insufficient Response to the Question

Insufficient responses indicate a very limited reading performance.

These responses have one of the following problems.

- For one or both selections, the idea is not an answer to the question asked.
- The idea is incorrect because it is not based on one or both selections.
- For one or both selections, the idea is too general, vague, or unclear to determine whether it is reasonable.
- No idea is present from either selection. Sometimes the response contains only text evidence from one or both selections. At other times there appears to be an idea; however, this idea cannot be considered an answer to the question because it merely repeats verbatim, or "echoes," the text evidence.

Score Point 1—Partially Sufficient Response to the Question

Partially sufficient responses indicate a basic reading performance.

These responses have one of the following characteristics.

- The idea is reasonable for both selections, but the response contains no text evidence (from one or both selections).
- The idea is reasonable for both selections, but the text evidence (from one or both selections) is flawed and does not adequately support the idea. Text evidence is considered inadequate when it is
  - only a general reference to the text,
  - too partial to support the idea,
  - weakly linked to the idea, or
  - used inappropriately because it wrongly manipulates the meaning of the text.
- For one or both selections, the idea needs more explanation or specificity even though it is supported with text evidence from both selections.
- For one or both selections, the idea represents only a literal reading of the text, with or without text evidence (from one or both selections).
- The response contains relevant textual evidence from both selections, but the student offers an idea that is reasonable for only one selection.
- The response contains an idea and relevant text evidence for both selections, but the idea for one selection contains an inaccuracy.

Score Point 2—Sufficient Response to the Question

Sufficient responses indicate a satisfactory reading performance.

These responses have the following characteristics.

- For both selections, the idea is reasonable and goes beyond a literal reading of the text. It is explained specifically enough to show that the student can make appropriate connections across the selections and draw valid conclusions.
- For both selections, the text evidence that is used to support the idea is accurate and relevant.
- For both selections, the idea and text evidence used to support it are clearly linked.
- For both selections, the combination of the idea and the text evidence demonstrates a good understanding of the text.

Score Point 3—Exemplary Response to the Question

Exemplary responses indicate an accomplished reading performance.

These responses have the following characteristics.

- For both selections, the idea is perceptive and reflects an awareness of the complexities of the text. The student is able to develop a coherent explanation of the idea by making discerning connections across both selections.
- For both selections, the text evidence that is used to support the idea is specific and well chosen. Overall, the evidence strongly supports the validity of the idea.
- For both selections, the combination of the idea and the text evidence demonstrates a deep understanding of the text.