



THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC



Module 2

Recognizing Relational Prompt Types

Grade 4 · Cluster 3

Tackling TEKS · Reading & Writing

4.11(B)(iv) · 4.12(B)(i) · 4.12(B)(ii) · 4.12(B)(iii) · 4.11(C)(i-iv) · 4.11(D)(i) · 4.11(D)(vi)-(xiv) · 4.11(D)(xxxiii) · 4.11(D)(xxxv)



★ Meet Our Week!

Week 2 · Medium Stamina · Cluster 3 (ECR Informative)

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- I will read closely, speak about my thinking, record my work, and explain how my choices strengthen an informative ECR.
- I will underline the relational clue in each prompt before I choose Reasons or Ways.
- I will use clue words to match my response structure to the prompt.
- I will revise one word or phrase so my thesis (central idea) is precise.

I Can...

- I can use relational clue words to decide whether a prompt needs reasons or ways.
- I can distinguish reason-based thinking from way/process-based thinking even when a prompt never says why or how.
- I can write a thesis (central idea) that answers the task instead of only naming the topic.
- I can explain which clue word proves my classification.



Catch and Correct the Mistake

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

Passages: “A Lone Star Choice” & “Making It Happen”

poem & drama · Medium Stamina · the R in TREES

What is the importance of Texas joining the United States?

The teacher may try to trick your ears. Mark Correct or Incorrect.

Turn and talk: what is this really asking you to do?



★ Dot the Tricky Words

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

D

Dot

Place a small dot above any word you are not sure about yet.

O

Discover

Discover the meaning as we learn together through our lessons.

T

Drop

Erase the dot once you know what the word means.

A little dot above a word means:
“I’m not sure about this word yet.”

Dot the word. Discover the meaning. Drop the dot, then celebrate when you own it!

★ Two Types of Thinking

Day 1 · Reveal

★ Daily Deck

WHY

REASON THINKING

Reason / WHY-type clues:
important, significance, reasons,
meaning, impact, value.

HOW

PROCESS THINKING

Way / HOW-type clues: reveal,
influence, develop, show, ways,
demonstrate.

?

THE CLUE

The topic tells WHAT. The
relational clue tells HOW TO
THINK.

★ Repair the Classification

Day 1 · Reveal (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

Round 1

Prompt “Explain the significance of support in helping ideas grow” is a HOW-type prompt.

Answer Incorrect. Significance signals reason/WHY-type thinking.

Do not just say I am wrong. Repair my thinking and name the clue that proves it.

Watch Me!

Prompt: “Explain the significance of support in helping ideas grow in the drama.”

Thesis (Central Idea): “Support is significant in Making It Happen because it gives people resources, encouragement, and opportunities to turn ideas into action.”

★ Flip-Flap Prompt Sort

Day 2 · Attempt · Partner Game

★ Daily Deck

Passages: “A Lone Star Choice” (poem) & “Making It Happen” (drama)

How to Play

- 1 Read each prompt.
- 2 Decide whether it asks for REASONS or WAYS.
- 3 Place it under the correct flap.
- 4 Underline the clue word that proves your choice.

With Your Partner...

Prompt Card 7

Explain the impact of the choice Texas made.

Accountability Move

“This belongs under ___ because ___ asks for ____.”



Let's talk about what your brain noticed.

Which clue words helped most?

What is the difference between a reason and a way?

Which prompt was hardest to classify, and what finally helped?

Which prompts were tricky?



Possible Student Responses

Day 3 · Discuss (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

What words helped you decide the prompt type?

Words like importance meant reasons.

Ways means steps or actions.

Some prompts looked similar.

The topic tells WHAT. The relational clue tells HOW TO THINK.





Try It On Your Own!

Day 3 · Use (Independent Practice) · Interactive Notebook

SORT

Create two columns: Reasons / Ways. Sort: important, reveal, significance, influence, reasons, ways, impact, develop, meaning, show.

CIRCLE

Then circle your three strongest clues.

THESIS (CENTRAL IDEA)

Choose one sorted prompt. Underline the relational clue. Write a one-sentence thesis (central idea) that directly answers the task.

SWEEP

Revise one word or phrase for precision.

Circle the words that helped you the most. These are your thinking clues.

★ Award & Target!

Day 4 · Award & Target

★ Daily Deck

Award 🏆

Name the clue word you trust most and explain why.

- Complete: “I can recognize a relational prompt by looking for ____.”
- Class recognition: “Prompt Detective of the Day”

Target 🎯

Choose one goal: notice the task word; distinguish reason vs. way; avoid answering the topic only; explain how the clue guided you.

Curiosity Questions

“Can a prompt include both types of thinking?”
“What happens if you answer the wrong type of prompt?”



Exit Ticket

Day 5 · Educate & Explain to Others

★ Daily Deck

Teach your partner how to classify a prompt without the words why or how.

Include one reason-type clue and one way-type clue.

Explains that the topic tells WHAT and the relational clue tells HOW TO THINK.



★ Prompt Clue Support

Small-Group Support

★ Daily Deck

Underline the clue word together. Choose REASONS or WAYS.

“importance” = reasons

“ways” = process

Use the frame: “This is a ___ prompt because the word ___ asks me to ___.”

Let's underline the clue words together.



Dual-Thinking Challenge

Enrichment · Write in your notebook

Choose one prompt. Draft a reasons response and a ways response.

Then compare: “Which answer fits the prompt best?”

A reasons response

A ways response

Compare them and
defend which one
actually fits the
prompt better.



★ My Progress Tracker

This tracker is for YOU! As you read and write this week, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in the box that matches how you feel. Be honest, this helps you see how much you are growing!

I Can...	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I locate the relational clue.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I distinguish reason-based from way/process-based thinking.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I name the clue that proves my choice.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I write a thesis (central idea) that answers the task.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I revise for precision and conventions.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it



Citizenship Connection

Good Citizens · Our Community & Country

★ Making It Happen

“So no matter what, people still need support to get started.” “When people have ideas, determination, and support, they can create amazing things.”



Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: “Explain the significance of support in helping ideas grow in the drama.”

LOW

Support helps ideas grow.

What Needs Improvement: The response restates the topic but does not explain the significance with clear reasons from the drama.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: “Explain the significance of support in helping ideas grow in the drama.”

MEDIUM

Support is significant in Making It Happen because people need help to get started. Mrs. Chen explains that patrons helped artists, and Mr. Patel says, “Banks help people turn ideas into businesses.”

What Needs Improvement: The thesis (central idea) matches reason thinking and uses evidence, but the explanation can connect both examples more precisely to why support is significant.

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: “Explain the significance of support in helping ideas grow in the drama.”

HIGH

Support is significant in Making It Happen because it gives people resources, encouragement, and opportunities to turn ideas into action. Mrs. Chen explains that “Many artists, writers, and inventors depended on support from others,” while Mr. Patel states, “Banks help people turn ideas into businesses.” Together, these details reveal that ideas may begin with one person, but support can provide what is needed to make them real.

★ **This is our target!**