

- 1 **Citing the Strongest Textual Evidence**
Why must I tell why?
- 2 **Review**
 - Textual evidence is information (details) from a text that support a statement you have made to show your understanding of the text.
 - Textual evidence is required any time you draw a conclusion, make an inference, or make a prediction about a text to show WHY you think that way.
 - In the 7th grade, you have to take this ONE step further and decide which piece of textual evidence most STRONGLY supports an idea from a text.
- 3 **Why Do I Have to Tell Why?**
 - Think about our legal system. People accused of a crime are guaranteed a trial to determine whether they are guilty.
 - What determines whether the person is considered to be guilty or not?
 - If the prosecuting attorney can't provide enough evidence, the person is found NOT GUILTY.
- 4 **Why Do I Have to Tell Why?**
 - The ability to cite textual evidence separates EFFECTIVE readers from INEFFECTIVE readers.
 - Evidence is the PROOF that your inference, opinion, or conclusion is CORRECT and fits with the meaning of the text.
 - Say a person (Rob) is accused of breaking into a woman's (April's) house.
 - Some evidence that may possibly indicate his guilt are:
 - April's laptop and TV found in his house
 - footprints at April's house that match the prints of his shoes
 - Rob's fingerprints in April's house.
 - an eyewitness who saw Rob leaving April's house with the laptop and TV
- 5 **You Decide...**

- Review this list of evidence. Choose the ONE piece of evidence that most strongly proves that Rob broke into April's house. Explain why you feel that piece of evidence is the strongest.
 - April's laptop and TV found in his house
 - footprints at April's house that match the prints of his shoes
 - Rob's fingerprints in April's house.
 - an eyewitness who saw Rob leaving April's house with the laptop and TV

6 **You Decide...**

- Correct answer is.....MULTIPLE ANSWERS
- Whether a piece of textual evidence is strongest is sometimes a matter of opinion. What YOU must demonstrate as an EFFECTIVE reader is WHY you think that way.
- You ALWAYS must tell WHY.
- WHY, WHY, WHY.....
- Assume YOU know something that others don't. That's why you must explain WHY you chose textual evidence to support your answer when writing or speaking about what you've read. Pretend a little kid is in your ear asking "WHY?" after each statement you write.

7 **You Decide...**

- Sometimes choosing the strongest piece of textual evidence is a matter of determining which one BEST proves the point.
- Look at the following examples.

8 **Practice Choosing the Strongest**

- Claim #1
Simple changes can cut your carbon emissions greatly!
A.I think that we need to do something quickly to help save the environment.
B.If you hang your clothes outside on the clothesline instead of using the electric dryer, you can cut your carbon emissions by 351 lbs/year.
C.Kids can help parents by doing some household chores.

9 **Practice Choosing the Strongest**

- Claim #2

Topic: Exercise is important for the growth and development of children.

- A.Children watch too much television.
- B.All children love to ride their bikes outside and on trails through the forest.
- C.Children who are active will have stronger muscles and bones.

10 **Practice Choosing the Strongest**

- Claim #3

Topic: A diet rich in fruits and vegetables has many benefits.

- A.Fruits and vegetables taste good.
- B.Eating lots of fruits and vegetables lowers your risk of heart disease.
- C.There are many colorful fruits and vegetables for you to try.

11 **Practice Choosing the Strongest**

- Claim #4

Topic: Smoking cigarettes is harmful to your health.

- A.The mixture of nicotine and carbon monoxide in cigarettes temporarily increases your heart rate and blood pressure, causing strain on your heart and blood vessels.
- B.Cigarette smoke smells really bad and that smell sticks to your hair and clothes.
- C.Secondhand smoke is bad for the people around you.

12 **Practice Choosing the Strongest**

- Claim #5

Topic: Bullying is a common problem in schools across the United States.

- A.Children who are bullied experience suffering that can interfere with their emotional and social development.
- B.Surveys indicate that as many as half of all children are bullied at some time during their school years.

C.Action needs to be taken to stop bullying now!

13 **More Practice...**

- Welcome! The tour is about to begin. First stop is the cornfield. It must be time to pick the corn crop. The cow pasture is near the cornfield. The cows eat grass and drink water. This helps them produce milk. A flock of sheep grazes in their pasture. The sheep have coats of soft wool. At the barn, the pigs are squealing at a dog that's bothering them. The henhouse is the last stop on the tour. The farmer is collecting the eggs. It's time to say goodbye.
- Where is this tour taking place? Cite the strongest piece of textual evidence to support your answer. Explain why you chose that piece of evidence. Think of a response for 3 mins (no writing).
- Then Think Pair Share with your neighbor.

14 **Let's Practice...Think Pair Share**

- What your answer needs...
 1. Topic sentence that RESTATES the question.
 - *The next thing Doug will do is.....*
 2. A sentence stating the STRONGEST piece of textual evidence in the clip.
 - *The strongest piece of textual evidence to support my inference is...*
 3. An explanation of WHY that textual evidence most strongly proves your point. Your explanation can include details from the text AND/OR include your own prior knowledge and thoughts.
 - *This piece of evidence shows....OR This piece of evidence proves that... OR This piece of evidence indicates.... (etc.)*