

# Reading STAAR Review

<p><b><u>USE THE DICTIONARY!</u></b> You will be asked the <b>meaning of a word</b>. <b>Look it up</b> in the <b>dictionary</b> to <b>select the correct definition</b>.</p>	<p><b><u>SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES</u></b> You will be asked to explain either the <b>similarities</b> or <b>differences</b> between selections. Carefully <b>examine the text</b> evidence before making your choice.</p>	<p><b><u>IMAGES/PICTURES</u></b> You will be asked to explain why an <b>image (picture)</b> was included in the selection and what purpose it serves. Carefully <b>examine the picture</b> before making your choice.</p>
<p><b><u>MAIN IDEA</u></b> You will be asked what the <b>MAIN IDEA</b> of the selection is. Remember that the main idea is <b>the most important</b> or <b>central thought</b> of a paragraph or larger section of text</p>	<p><b><u>SUMMARY</u></b> You will be asked what the best <b>SUMMARY</b> is for the selection. A <b>summary</b> is a brief account that contains the <b>main points of the text</b>.</p>	<p><b><u>5Ws and H</u></b> You will be asked <b>who/what/where/when/why/how</b> questions. Find your answers in the text! If you can't find them directly in the text, make an <b>inference!</b></p>
<p><b><u>CONCLUSION</u></b> You will be asked what the best <b>CONCLUSION</b> is for the selection. The <b>conclusion</b> is the sentences or paragraphs that bring a speech, essay, report, or book to a satisfying and <b>logical end</b>.</p>	<p><b><u>IDEA/POINT</u></b> You will be asked what <b>IDEA</b> is portrayed in a selection or both selections. Think about the <b>point</b> the text is trying to make.</p>	<p><b><u>INFERENCE</u></b> You will be asked to <b>INFER</b> something from what you already know in the selection. An <b>inference</b> is a <b>logical guess or conclusion</b> based on observation, prior experience, or textual evidence</p>
<p><b><u>IMAGERY</u></b> You will be asked what an example of <b>IMAGERY</b> in the selection is. <b>Imagery</b> is descriptive or figurative language used to create word pictures; imagery is created by details that appeal to one or more of the five senses.</p>	<p><b><u>FEELINGS EXPRESSED</u></b> You will be asked which best matches the <b>FEELING EXPRESSED</b> in the selection. Pay attention to the <b>adjectives</b> used to help you determine the feeling.</p>	<p><b><u>TOPE</u></b> You will be asked which best matches the <b>TOPE</b> in the selection. The <b>tone</b> is a <b>writer's or speaker's attitude toward a subject</b>.</p>
<p><b><u>MOOD</u></b> You will be asked what words are used to convey a particular <b>MOOD</b>. <b>Mood</b> is the overall emotional quality of a work, which is created by the author's language and tone and the subject matter.</p>	<p><b><u>SETTING</u></b> You will be asked how the <b>SETTING</b> influences the <b>PLOT</b>. The <b>setting</b> is the <b>time and the place</b> in which a narrative occurs. The <b>plot</b> is the <b>sequence of related events</b> that make up a story or novel.</p>	<p><b><u>CONFLICT</u></b> You will be asked about the <b>CONFLICT</b> in the text. <b>Conflict</b> is a struggle between opposing forces. In an <b>external conflict</b>, a character struggles with an outside force, such as another character or something in nature. In an <b>internal conflict</b>, the character struggles with his/her own needs, desires, or emotions.</p>
<p><b><u>POINT OF VIEW</u></b> You will be asked from which <b>POINT OF VIEW</b> the selection written? The <b>point of view</b> is the <b>perspective from which a story is told</b>. In first-person point of view, the teller is a character in the story telling what he or she sees or knows. In third-person point of view, the narrator is someone outside of the story.</p>	<p><b><u>AUTHOR'S PURPOSE</u></b> You will be asked what best describes the <b>AUTHOR</b> of the selection. You will also be asked what the <b>author's purpose</b> is for writing the selection. The <b>author's purpose</b> is his/her <b>reason</b> for writing the selection; what the writer hopes to accomplish.</p>	<p><b><u>THEME</u></b> You will be asked what <b>THEME</b> is expressed in the selection. The <b>theme</b> is the <b>central idea, message, or purpose</b> of a literary work.</p>

<p><b><u>DIALOGUE</u></b> You will be asked what the <b>DIALOGUE</b> reveals in the selection. <b>Dialogue</b> is the <b>conversation between characters</b>.</p>	<p><b><u>STAGE DIRECTIONS</u></b> You will be asked about the use of <b>STAGE DIRECTIONS</b> in a selection. The <b>stage directions</b> are the <b>instructions</b> to the actors, director, and stage crew. They might suggest scenery, lighting, music, sound effects, and ways for actors to move and speak.</p>	
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### Additional Definitions

**allusion:** a reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work, or work of art

**analogy:** a comparison of the similarity of two things; for example, comparing a *part to a whole* or the *whole to a part*

**archetype:** a character, symbol, story pattern, or other element that is common to human experience across cultures and that occurs frequently in literature, myth, and folklore

**characterization:** the methods a writer uses to develop characters; for example, through description, actions, and dialogue

**connotation:** the suggested or implied meaning or emotion associated with a word—beyond its literal definition

**denotation:** the exact, literal meaning of a word

**diction:** a writer's or speaker's choice of words

**flashback:** a sudden and vivid memory of an event in the past; also, an interruption in the sequence of events in the plot of a story to relate events that occurred in the past

**foreshadowing:** clues or hints signaling events that will occur later in the plot

**symbol:** an object, a person, or a place that stands for something else