

★ STAR Writing Strategy

★ What is STAR?

STAR is a simple, structured writing strategy that helps students respond to open-ended questions with clarity, evidence, and explanation.

■ STAR Breakdown

STAR Step	What It Means	Sentence Starters
S – Set Up	Restate the question and answer it clearly	I believe... / The main idea is...
T – Text Evidence	Use a quote or paraphrase from the text	For example... / The author says...
A – Analyze	Explain how the evidence supports your answer	This shows that... / This means...
R – Restate	Wrap up your response by repeating your main idea	So in conclusion... / That's why...

📝 Sample Prompt & STAR Response

Prompt: Why is Rosa Parks considered a hero?

- S – Set Up: Rosa Parks is considered a hero because she stood up for civil rights.
- T – Text Evidence: She refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus, showing courage.
- A – Analyze: The article states, “Her quiet defiance sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott.”
- R – Restate: That's why Rosa Parks is remembered as a symbol of bravery and change.

🧠 Quick Tips for Teaching STAR

- Model it: Use think-alouds to write responses together with students.
- Display it: Anchor charts with icons or visuals help reinforce each step.
- Practice it: Apply STAR in reading journals, exit tickets, and warm-ups.
- Support it: Use sentence frames, color-coding, and graphic organizers for scaffolding.
- Extend it: Use STAR across content areas—science reflections, historical analysis, SEL prompts.