

# STAR Strategy Teacher Checklist

Use this checklist to guide instruction and ensure students master each step of the STAR writing component.

## Instructional Support

- Introduced Each STAR Step Clearly**
  - Explained the purpose of each step using student-friendly language ▶ Posted or displayed an anchor chart with visuals or icons ▶ Connected each step to real writing tasks or prompts
- STAR Breakdown:**
  - **S – Set Up:** Restate the question and give a clear answer
  - **T – Text Evidence:** Use a quote or paraphrase from the text
  - **A – Analyze:** Explain how the evidence supports your answer
  - **R – Restate:** Wrap up your response with a final thought
- Modeled with Think-Aloud**
  - Wrote a STAR response live or projected a sample
  - Verbalized how to choose evidence and explain it
  - Highlighted transitions and sentence starters
  - Showed how to revise weak analysis or restatements
- Provided Guided Practice**
  - Used graphic organizers with prompts for each STAR step
  - Offered sentence frames, word banks, or color-coded scaffolds
  - Led small group practice or peer collaboration
  - Gave students time to rehearse orally before writing
- Gave Feedback on Each Component**
  - Checked that students restated the question clearly (Set Up)
  - Verified that evidence was relevant and cited correctly (Text Evidence)
  - Prompted students to explain *why* the evidence matters (Analyze)
  - Encouraged students to wrap up with a strong final sentence (Restate)
  - Used checklists, conferencing, or sticky note feedback