

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