

Short Answer Writing Tips

I. Create an **ASSERTION** (answer to the question)

- Should be a complete sentence
- Accurate to the text
- Directly addresses the assigned prompt
- Not literal – offers an analytical (Level II) idea

II. Choose the right **EVIDENCE** (relevant quotation(s) from text)

- Directly supports the assertion given

III. Explain with **COMMENTARY** (*how* and *why* evidence supports the assertion)

- Focused on the assertion – should not veer into a different idea
- Beyond the literal – offers an analysis on the prompt
- Accurate to text

Courtesy of Frisco ISD English Language Arts Department