

**Standards Focus: Response to Literature****Finding Supporting Quotations**

For almost every test, whether it is for your school, your district, or for the state, at one time or another you will have to write an essay responding to literature. A **Response to Literature** prompt asks you to take your own personal opinions and answer the prompt, using examples from the literature to support your ideas.

Some broad examples of prompts are:

- How does the main character change throughout the story? What do you think causes the change? What does this story say about society in general? In what ways does this story remind you of people you have known or experiences you have had in your own life?
- How successful was the author in creating good literature? Support your response with examples from the story.
- Choose one of the following quotations from the story. How does this quotation relate to the elements of the story such as characters or theme?

In each of these examples, it will be necessary to know exactly how to take quotations from the text and make them work for you in your essay. Additionally, it is necessary to have the text in front of you in order to find quotes to support your response. To practice extracting and using quotations for an essay, complete the activity below.

*Prompt: In Chapter 8, it becomes apparent that Jack fully intends to oust Ralph from his elected position and become leader himself. He uses intimidation and scare tactics to recruit his followers. Using examples from Chapter 8, explore the **evidence that Jack is taking over leadership of the island**. Support your response with references from the text.*

*Directions: In order to write an essay using quotations from the text, re-read Chapter 8, noting with a sticky note or other technique every reference that you can find dealing with the **evidence that Jack is taking over leadership of the island**. You will want to find as many quotes as you can—that does not mean you will have to use them all in your essay.*

*Once you have found your quotes, you will need to decide HOW you are going to use them in your essay. Complete the chart below and on the next page to help organize your ideas and views. An example has been done for you.*

<b>Page</b>	<b>Direct Quote</b>	<b>Significance</b>
125	"The sound of the inexpertly blown conch interrupted them. As though he were serenading the rising sun, Jack went on blowing till the shelters were astir and the hunters crept to the platform and the littluns whimpered as now they so frequently did. Ralph rose obediently, and Piggy, and they went to the platform."	Ralph had previously been the one to call all meetings. Jack is not willing to remain under Ralph's leadership, and decides that if things are going to be the way he wants them, <i>he</i> must take over as leader. Blowing the conch is, for him, the place to start. Ralph and Piggy don't realize this is what is happening, and follow him.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

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