



THE WRITING ACADEMY, LLC®



Module 4

Matching Reasons, Evidence, and Explanations



Grade 3 • Cluster 3

Tackling TEKS 3.12B — Reading & Writing



★ Meet Our Week!

Module Slide 1 • Module 4

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- Choose evidence that connects to and supports my reason.
- Use CSI to infer what my evidence proves.
- Introduce a quotation with a signal marker.
- Explain evidence with a clear "This..." sentence.

I Can...

- Tell whether a quote matches my reason.
- Use CSI to check my evidence.
- Use a signal marker before a quote.
- **Explain** how my quote proves my reason.

★ You Are a Reason-Prover!

Day 1 • Gather

REASON + EVIDENCE + EXPLANATION = Strong Body Paragraph

A writer cannot just point at a reason and hope everyone believes it
— the writer must bring proof, then explain why that proof matters.

Chant it: Hey, hey, hey, evidence is on the way! Wow, wow, wow, I'm explaining now!

★ CSI for Evidence

Day 1 • Reveal

C — Connect

Does this quote
connect to my reason?

S — Support

Does this quote
support my thinking
clearly?

I — Infer

What can I explain
from this quote?

You are not just matching by guesswork — you are using CSI!

★ Signal Markers Open the Door

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.)

For Evidence

The poet said, "..."

The text stated, "..."

The playwright said, "..."

The drama stated, "..."

For Explanation

This means... This shows... This
proves... This demonstrates... This
reminds me of... In my experience...

★ Watch Me Prove It!

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.)

REASON

One reason laws were needed was to stop arguments and prevent conflict from spreading.

EVIDENCE

The poet said, "Voices grew loud like clashing, noisy rings."

EXPLANATION

This means the disagreements were becoming intense and hard to control.

Teacher Script

"Let me check with CSI. Does the quote connect to arguments and conflict? Does it support the reason? Yes — loud voices suggest arguing and tension. **Now I explain.**"

★ CSI Match-Up Mission

Day 2 • Attempt

How to Play

1. Spin, then draw a matching card.
2. Find the reason, evidence, and explanation cards that go together.
3. Say "CSI Check!" and explain why the cards match.
4. Correct match → move your Pencil Guy 3 spaces!

Path to Proof Palace

Reason Road → Evidence Lane →
Explanation Bridge → **Proof Palace**

You are detectives of good writing — you are not just matching by guesswork. You are using CSI.

★ What Makes a Match Strong?

Day 3 • Discuss

How do you know if evidence really matches a reason? Why is it important to quote the text directly?

Student Directions

"The evidence has to be about the same idea as the reason. The signal marker lets the reader know evidence is coming."

What job does the signal marker do?

Why is explanation needed after evidence?

★ Proof Turns Into Meaning

Day 3 • Discuss (cont.)

"A quote is proof, but explanation turns proof into meaning."

The signal marker is like opening the door for the evidence. The explanation does the heavy lifting of showing how the quote proves the reason.

≡ Build Your Proof!

Day 3 • Use (Independent Practice) — Interactive Notebook

1

Given reason: One reason laws were needed was to protect fairness for everyone. Find the quote, add a signal marker, and explain it starting with This.

2

Given reason: One reason pasteurized milk is important is that it helps protect people from sickness. Find the quote, add a signal marker, and explain it.

Divide your page into three columns: Reason | Evidence | Explanation

🎯 I Chose Proof With Purpose!

Day 4 • Award & Target

Revise this weak explanation: "This is about fairness."

Possible revision: This shows that fairness had broken down because some people took more food than they needed while others were left without enough.

Target Questions

Did my evidence match my reason? Did I use a signal marker correctly? Did my explanation really prove the reason?

Exit Ticket

Day 5 • Educate & Explain to Others

One reason pasteurized milk is important is that it helps protect people from sickness.

On your own: write one signal marker, a matching quotation, and an explanation beginning with This.

★ Prove It Step by Step

Small-Group Support

Step 1: Choose

Read two or three evidence cards aloud. Choose which quote best matches the reason.

Step 2: Build

Use frames: "The poet said, '...'" • "This shows..." • "This proves..."

Step 3: Say It

"My reason is... My quote is... This shows..."

We do not have to do everything at once — we will prove it step by step.

② One Reason, Many Ways to Explain

Enrichment • Write in your notebook

Definition: This means Pasteur's discovery is still useful in the present.

Expert Testimony: This shows the discovery solved a past problem and continues to keep people safe now. This proves its importance lasts over time.

Story/Anecdote: This reminds me of how inventions keep helping people. In my experience, the best solutions keep working year after year.

✓ My Progress Tracker

Directions

This tracker is for YOU! As you practice matching reasons, evidence, and explanations, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in or check the box that matches how you feel.

Be honest with yourself — this helps you see how much you are growing!

Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: Explain WHY laws were needed in “Why We Need Laws.”

LOW

"Laws were needed."

What's working: The student names the topic.

What's missing: No precise reason, evidence, or explanation — state a reason, add a matching quotation, and explain what it proves.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: Explain WHY laws were needed in “Why We Need Laws.”

MEDIUM

"Laws were needed because people were not fair. The poet said, 'Some took more food while others had too little.'"

What's working: The reason and quotation match — the evidence is relevant.

What's missing: The writer has not explained it — add a "This..." sentence that tells how unequal food proves fairness had broken down.

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: Explain WHY laws were needed in “Why We Need Laws.”

HIGH

"One reason laws were needed was to protect fairness for everyone. The poet said, ‘Some took more food while others had too little.’ This shows that fairness had broken down because some people had more than they needed while others were left without enough."

What's working: The reason, evidence, and explanation all match, and the explanation makes the connection visible. The writer selected proof with purpose — this is our Module 4 target!