



THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC



Module 4

Matching Reasons, Evidence, and Explanation with CSI

Grade 4 · Cluster 3

Tackling TEKS · Reading & Writing

4.11(B)(iv) · 4.12(B)(i) · 4.12(B)(ii) · 4.12(B)(iii) · 4.11(C)(i-iv) · 4.11(D)(i) · 4.11(D)(vi)-(xiv) · 4.11(D)(xxxiii) · 4.11(D)(xxxv)



★ Meet Our Week!

Week 4 · Very High Stamina · Cluster 3 (ECR Informative)

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- I will read closely, speak about my thinking, record my work, and explain how my choices strengthen an informative ECR.
- I will test each quotation by asking whether it connects, supports, and allows an inference.
- I will write an explanation that adds meaning instead of retelling the quotation.
- I will revise a Reason + Evidence + Explanation set for coherence and conventions.

I Can...

- I can match reasons to quoted evidence and explain what the evidence proves using CSI.
- I can use a signal marker to introduce an accurate quotation.
- I can explain what quoted evidence means and why it matters.
- I can compare possible quotations and choose the proof that most directly supports a reason.



Finish the Thought in Your Own Words

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

Passages: “A Lone Star Choice” & “Making It Happen”

poem & drama · Very High Stamina · evidence + explanation

Give your answer to a partner first. Then write a shorter version.

“Strong evidence is...” “A signal marker helps because...” “The word this connects...”

Hey, hey, hey, evidence is on the way!

★ Dot the Tricky Words

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

D

Dot

Place a small dot above any word you are not sure about yet.

O

Discover

Discover the meaning as we learn together through our lessons.

T

Drop

Erase the dot once you know what the word means.

A little dot above a word means:
“I’m not sure about this word yet.”

Dot the word. Discover the meaning. Drop the dot, then celebrate when you own it!



Reason + Quoted Evidence + Explanation

★ Daily Deck

Day 1 · Reveal

C

CONNECT

Connect the quote to the reason

S

SUPPORT

Support the reason with specific
proof

I

INFER

Infer what the evidence means
and why it matters

Signal markers: The poet said... · The playwright said... · The text stated...

Explanation explores the evidence. It does not repeat it.

★ Model the Matching Process

Day 1 · Reveal (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

Three Explanation Types

Definition

Expert Testimony

Story / Anecdote

This shows... This means... This proves... This reminds me of... This is like... This helps us understand...

Watch Me!

Reason: Another reason decisions are important in both texts is that support helps ideas become reality. **Evidence:** The playwright said, “Banks help people turn ideas into businesses.”

Explanation: This means support is help that allows an idea to move forward.

Wow, wow, wow, I’m explaining now!

★ CSI Triple Match

Day 2 · Attempt · Partner Game

★ Daily Deck

Passages: “A Lone Star Choice” (poem) & “Making It Happen” (drama)

How to Play

- 1 Match one Reason card + one Evidence card + one Explanation card.
- 2 Test the quote with CSI.
- 3 Highlight the signal marker.
- 4 Circle this in the explanation.
- 5 Defend the match.

Set 3

Reason

A third reason decisions are important in both texts is that conflict and choices lead to important results.

Evidence

The poem stated, “Soon a war began to rise,”

Explanation

This shows that conflict is a problem that creates action or results.

Discuss the Match

What made one quote stronger
than another?

How did CSI help?

Why do signal markers matter?

What job did the explanation do
after the quote?



Possible Student Responses

Day 3 · Discuss (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

Why is it helpful to begin explanation with the word this?

**Strong evidence
directly proved the
reason.**

**Signal markers show that
proof is coming from the text.**

**The word this points
back to the evidence.**

If the quote is interesting but does not prove the reason, it is not the best evidence for that paragraph.

★ Try It On Your Own!

Day 3 · Use (Independent Practice) · Interactive Notebook

REASONS

Choose three reason sentences.

EVIDENCE

Find one quoted piece of evidence for each. Add a signal marker.

EXPLAIN

Write one explanation after each quote. Use definition, expert testimony, or story/anecdote.

SWEEP

Make sure your explanation begins with this.

Build My Paragraph Parts

★ Award & Target!

Day 4 · Award & Target

★ Daily Deck

Award 🏆

Star your strongest explanation.

- Complete: “This match is strong because the quote proves ___ and my explanation adds ___.”
- Evidence Expert
- CSI Matcher
- Explanation Builder
- Quote Connector

Target 🎯

Choose one target: tighter evidence match; stronger signal marker; explanation that goes beyond retelling; clearer inference; more precise quotation.

Curiosity Questions

“Can one quote prove more than one reason?”

“What happens if the evidence and explanation do not really match?”



Exit Ticket

Day 5 · Educate & Explain to Others

★ Daily Deck

Teach the Reason-Evidence-Explanation Set

Teach how to choose evidence with CSI, why signal markers matter, and how definition, expert testimony, and story/anecdote explanations differ.

If you can teach it, you understand it.

Read one reason. Compare two quotes. Highlight matching words/ideas.
Choose the stronger quote.

Answer: “What did this quote prove?”

Then select or write an explanation.

This quote is interesting, but does it prove the reason?



Triple Match Plus

Enrichment · Write in your notebook

Advanced writers know that one reason can sometimes be supported by more than one strong quote.

Defend the strongest quote-and-explanation combination.

Find two possible
quotes for one reason.

Use CSI to choose the
stronger one.

Write two
explanations using
different types.

★ My Progress Tracker

This tracker is for YOU! As you read and write this week, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in the box that matches how you feel. Be honest, this helps you see how much you are growing!

I Can...	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I match a reason to direct quoted evidence.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I introduce evidence with a signal marker.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I use CSI to Connect, Support, and Infer.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I explain what the evidence proves and why it matters.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
I revise for coherence and conventions.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it

★ Citizenship Connection

Good Citizens · Our Community & Country

★ Making It Happen

“They believed in the artist or the idea, so they helped make it happen.” “So no matter what, people still need support to get started.”

Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: Reason: One reason decisions are important in both texts is that they shape the future.

LOW

The poet said, “Texas joined the U.S., a choice that stayed.”

What Needs Improvement: The quotation is accurate, but it needs a signal-marker connection to the reason and an explanation of what it proves.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: Reason: One reason decisions are important in both texts is that they shape the future.

MEDIUM

The poet said, “Texas joined the U.S., a choice that stayed.” This shows the choice changed Texas.

What Needs Improvement: The evidence matches the reason, but the explanation can infer more precisely how the decision shaped the future.

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: Reason: One reason decisions are important in both texts is that they shape the future.

HIGH

The poet said, “Texas joined the U.S., a choice that stayed.” This shows that a decision is a choice that leads to change. Texas’s choice shaped its future by changing its place in history.

★ This is our target!