1. Select appropriate textual evidence.

2. Select a lead-in to introduce the textual evidence to the reader:

* 1. According to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (author/character/narrator), in (title of the text),
  2. The narrator states,
  3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (a name) states/declares/thinks/ponders/wonders/proclaims,

3. Select an appropriate verb to match the textual evidence. Is the textual evidence narration? Then the lead-in should state that. Is the textual evidence a character thinking? Then the lead-in should state that. Is the textual evidence a character proclaiming something with absolute certainty? You guessed it…then the lead-in should state that.

\*\*\*\*The verb should also match the tense in which you have chosen to write.

For example, the verbs in the above example end with “s” since the tense is present tense.

4. Put a comma after the lead-in.

5. Place quotation marks around the textual evidence. They should be “cupping” the textual evidence. See what they look like there?

\*\*\*\* If the textual evidence contains an ambiguous pronoun (he, she, him, her, etc.)., clarify who that is in brackets.

See the final example on this page .

6. Cite (give credit to author and inform reader of where information can be found) your textual evidence by placing the author’s last name and page number of the textual evidence in parenthesis.

7. The period goes after the parenthesis.

8. Explain the textual evidence. Include how the selected textual evidence supports the reason, point, or answer.

**FINAL PRODUCT:**

*(Keep in mind this will appear in a body paragraph somewhere after the topic sentence.)*

The narrator states, “He [Jonas] wept because he was afraid now that he could not save Gabriel. He no longer cared about himself” (Lowry 176). In his weakened cold, hungry, and injured condition, Jonas weeps because he fears he will not be able to offer Gabriel a better life after successfully escaping their community and his scheduled release. He ignores his own needs in order to bring Gabriel to an Elsewhere in which memories, history, color, choice, and love exist. However, Jonas must remember to care for himself since the two-year-old depends on him for survival.