



GRADE 5 READING SAMPLE - RL.5.1

# Quoting Accurate Evidence

Read closely. Select precisely. Explain how the evidence proves your thinking.

## Learning Target

I can quote accurately from a text when explaining what it says directly and when making an inference.

## Mini-Lesson: The Quote + Explain Method

|              |                                                                                      |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ANSWER    | State your answer or inference in your own words.                                    |
| 2. INTRODUCE | Use a signal phrase: The text states, The author explains, or In paragraph __, ...   |
| 3. QUOTE     | Copy only the most useful words exactly and place quotation marks around them.       |
| 4. EXPLAIN   | Tell how the quoted words prove your answer. Never leave a quotation standing alone. |

## Worked Example

**Question:** What can the reader infer about Lena when the storm begins?

**Answer + evidence:** Lena stays calm under pressure. In paragraph 6, the author writes, "Lena folded the map and gave each volunteer a job." This shows that she responds to danger by organizing a plan instead of panicking.

## Accuracy Check

Did you copy the words exactly? Did you use quotation marks? Did you explain how the quotation proves the answer?



**READ THE PASSAGE**

## **The Signal on Harbor Hill**

*An original realistic-fiction passage*

1 By three o'clock, the annual Harbor Day celebration had filled the waterfront with music, food stands, and visitors. Maya Chen should have been helping her father at the marine-rescue booth, but she kept glancing toward Harbor Hill. At its summit stood an old signal tower that had once guided fishing boats through fog. The tower had been closed for years, yet that afternoon a pale light flashed behind its dusty windows.

2 Maya pointed it out to her best friend, Andre. "Probably sunlight bouncing off the glass," he said, though the sky had turned the color of wet cement. Maya watched again. Three quick flashes appeared, followed by a long pause. Her grandfather had taught her the harbor's emergency signal: three short flashes meant trouble.

3 At the rescue booth, Maya told her father what she had seen. He studied the hill, then checked the weather radio. A fast-moving storm had changed direction and was now heading toward the harbor. "The tower has no power," he said. "And the trail is closed because last week's rain damaged the footbridge." He called the park office, but the line was busy.

4 Another set of flashes blinked from the tower. Maya remembered seeing two park volunteers carry boxes toward the hill that morning. One of them, Mr. Alvarez, walked with a cane. If the bridge had worsened, they might be trapped above the creek. "Someone needs to check," Maya said.

5 Her father shook his head. "Not alone, and not on a damaged trail." He handed her a bright orange safety vest. "Stay here and help me prepare the booth. I will contact the harbor patrol." Maya wanted to argue, but she knew his rule was reasonable. Racing uphill without a plan could create another emergency.

6 Maya studied the tower and then the rescue equipment. She noticed a signal mirror in the open kit. If the person in the tower could flash a message, perhaps Maya could answer. She aimed the mirror toward the hill and sent the harbor signal for message received. A moment later, the tower flashed twice - the signal for wait.

7 Maya explained her plan to her father. Together they contacted the harbor patrol by radio and marked a safer route on an old maintenance map. Maya stayed at the booth, relaying the tower's signals while trained rescuers climbed the service road.

8 By the time rain swept across the harbor, the volunteers were safely below the hill. Maya had not rushed into danger, but her careful attention and use of evidence had helped the adults act quickly. Her father smiled. "Good rescue work begins with noticing what others miss," he said.



**EVIDENCE LAB**

## Quote, Explain, Prove

Answer each question. Include one exact quotation and explain how it supports your response.

**1. What can the reader infer about Maya from the way she responds to the flashes?**

Answer:

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Exact quotation:

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Explanation:

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**2. Why does Maya decide not to climb Harbor Hill herself?**

Answer:

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Exact quotation:

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Explanation:

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**3. How does Maya's use of evidence affect the outcome of the story?**

Answer:

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Exact quotation:

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Explanation:

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**4. Which detail best supports the idea that careful thinking can be courageous?**

Answer:

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Exact quotation:

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Explanation:

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## OPTIONAL CREATIVE PROJECT

# Evidence Detective Case File

Choose a fiction or nonfiction text. Investigate one meaningful question, build a conclusion, and prove it with accurate quotations.

### Case Question

Write one close-reading question that cannot be answered with one word.

### Conclusion

Answer the question with a clear claim, inference, lesson, or explanation.

### Four Exact Quotes

Copy four brief, powerful quotations and identify the page, paragraph, chapter, or section.

### Evidence Analysis

Explain how each quotation supports the conclusion.

### Final Case Report

Connect the evidence and explain why the complete case is convincing.

## Choose a format

Case board - Podcast - Written detective file - Google Slides presentation

### Submission Check

My quotations match the text exactly. I used quotation marks and source locations. Every quotation supports my conclusion. I explained every quotation.