



Evidence Strength Meter

Mission: Not all evidence is created equal. Test each quote from "Moving Day" on the evidence meter: does it strongly prove the claim, weakly relate to it, or not support it at all?

Big question: What makes textual evidence strong, weak, or irrelevant?

★ Warm-up: Strong or weak?

Claim: "Our dog is smart." Rate each piece of evidence.

"He can open the back door by himself." ✓ **Strong.**

"He has brown fur." ✓ **Doesn't support.**

Key vocabulary

Relevant	Connected to the claim.
Sufficient	Enough to prove the claim.
Contradict	Go against.
Claim	A statement you are trying to prove.

1 Box 1

Test the evidence

In the simulator: Place every evidence card on the meter correctly.

What did you notice?

2 Box 2

Why weak?

Why is "Tessa laughed for the first time" only WEAK evidence for the claim?

☐ It shows she is happier, but not directly that she feels at home ☐ It isn't in the story ☐ It proves the opposite

✓ **It shows she is happier, but not directly that she feels at home**

3 Box 3

Contradicting evidence

"This isn't home" is from the story. Why doesn't it support the claim?

☐ It shows how she felt BEFORE she changed, so it goes against the claim ☐ It is too short ☐ It is a question

✓ **It shows how she felt BEFORE she changed, so it goes against the claim**

4 Box 4

Use the strongest

Prove the claim using the STRONGEST evidence.

Claim

Look for: Restates the claim; at least 8 words

Evidence

Look for: Uses a strong quote; an exact quote from the text; at least 10 words

Reasoning

Look for: Explains why it proves the claim; at least 14 words

5 Box 5

Legend: make weak strong Legend only

Take a WEAK piece of evidence and explain what you would need to add (another quote or explanation) to make it support the claim.

Look for: Explains what to add; at least 18 words

Exit ticket: answer the big question in your own words

What makes textual evidence strong, weak, or irrelevant?

Look for: Strong evidence directly proves the claim. Weak evidence is related to the topic but needs a big leap to prove the claim. Some quotes don't support the claim at all or even contradict it. Always choose the strongest evidence.

Completion codes

Students see a code like **ABC-13** when they finish. The first part must match below. The letter is the level (E = Explorer, I = Investigator, L = Legend), and the number at the end is how many stars they earned.

Level	Code starts with
 Explorer	648-E
 Investigator	1C4-I
 Legend	D1V-L

Watch for these misconceptions

- "An inference is a guess." It is a conclusion based on evidence.
- "Any quote about the topic works as evidence." Evidence must support the specific claim.
- "The theme is stated in the last sentence." Themes are usually developed across the whole text.