

Elaboration Strategies

Elaboration Strategy	Transitions	Example <i>Claim: Students should be required to read for at least half an hour a day.</i> <i>Reason: Reading makes kids smarter.</i>
Anecdote or Imagined Scene	One time... A long time ago... Once... Imagine... What would you do if...	Your life would be unbearable if you could not read! Picture sitting in a booth at the new Japanese restaurant in town. You are so excited to eat all sorts of new foods—until you realize that you don't know the names of anything, and you can't read the descriptions. You see all the pictures of octopus parts and snails, and the half-fleshed fish points its dead eyes right at you from off the menu page. All you want are some noodles, but you can't read the menu!
Figurative Language or Literary Devices (imagery, metaphor, simile, famous phrases)	The smell of... Picture... ...feels like... ...sounds like... It was like...	Reading informative books is like body building for your intellect. The feel of a printed page, its coarse texture, its crisp letters, and smooth edges has no comparison. Vote, or die! Puff Daddy was on to something when he admonished young people to participate in their government.
Example	For example,... For instance,...	When you read, it takes a lot of skills. For instance, you have to focus your eyes, recall the sounds of the letters, remember the meaning of words, put the words into sentences, and make sure you understand what you just read. I've never had the chance to visit Japan, but in the last novel I read, I got to see what life is like for kids in Tokyo. I would have never known about how strict Japanese schools can be, that all students must wear uniforms, and that they even have to eat the same lunch that the school provides. I learned all of these things simply from reading.
Explanation (Definition)	This is important... Because... This shows... That means...	With each book a kid reads, he or she becomes smarter and more knowledgeable. Intelligence is simply knowing about the larger world, having facts, and being able to look beyond the obvious—all things learned while reading. When a person reads well, he or she becomes more intelligent. (Notice how all three of these relate back to the REASON.)
Statistics and Facts	An important fact is... Recent statistics show...	Multiple studies have shown that the more words an employee can use, the more money they make. More than 10,000 books are published every year in our world. Obviously, a lot of people enjoy reading. Every book tells the reader about a world the author believes is important. Something can be learned from every book, good, bad, funny, or sad.

Elaboration Cloze Notes

Elaborate: (__.): _____

1. An _____ is a small piece of a story inserted into an essay that helps make the point. It could be an _____, as long as it's believable.
 2. _____ is a way to create vivid images. Use all five senses to paint a _____ for your reader.
 3. _____ provide more specific information about something.
 4. _____ is a way to restate an unfamiliar word or tell what it means. Don't assume your reader knows!
_____ means justifying your answer.
 5. _____ are numbers or data that help support your idea. These must be true, not made up. The words "most" and "few" are okay if you want to "eyeball" a _____.
_____ are interesting and relevant details that support your point.
- The five types of elaboration are: _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.