Cross-text connections

A cross-text question presents two texts on a shared topic and asks how they. . .



Lesson `rw.craft.K3`

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The idea

A cross-text question presents two texts on a shared topic and asks how they relate, such as how the author of one would respond to the other or where they agree or disagree. Pin down each text's specific claim or stance, then compare them precisely.

What exactly does each text claim? Is the question about response, agreement, disagreement, or extension?

State Text 1's stance and Text 2's stance in your own words. Compare them, keeping the degree of agreement or disagreement matched to what each text actually says.

Watch every step

Text 1: Conservationists warn that draining the wetland threatens dozens of bird species that breed there each spring. Text 2: Local biologists report that since the wetland began drying, several migratory bird populations have sharply declined.

How do the two texts relate?

- **A.** Text 2 provides observed evidence consistent with the concern Text 1 raises.
- **B.** Text 2 directly contradicts Text 1's warning. ✗ *overstated-agreement/disagreement*
- **C.** Text 2 mainly describes the wetland's plant life. ✗ *one-text-only*
- **D.** Text 1 argues that the wetland should be drained. ✗ *misreads-one-text*

Why A — "Text 2 provides observed evidence consistent with the. . . ." Select the option that accurately captures both texts' positions and their relationship.

Now a harder one

Text 1: An economist argues that raising the minimum wage causes businesses to cut jobs, hurting the very workers it aims to help. Text 2: Studies of recent minimum-wage increases found only small employment effects, while many low-wage workers saw higher earnings.

How would the author of Text 2 most likely respond to the economist in Text 1?

- ✓ **A.** By suggesting that the feared job losses have been smaller than Text 1 claims.
- **B.** By agreeing that minimum-wage increases sharply cut employment. ✗ *misreads-one-text*
- **C.** By asserting that minimum-wage increases have no effect on anyone at all. ✗ *overstated-agreement/disagreement*
- **D.** By explaining how the inflation rate is calculated. ✗ *unsupported-relationship*

Why A — "By suggesting that the feared job losses have been smaller. . . ." Select the option that accurately captures both texts' positions and their relationship.

The method, in one line

Cross-text connections

State Text 1's stance and Text 2's stance in your own words. Compare them, keeping the degree of agreement or disagreement matched to what each text actually says.

Did I read each text correctly? Is the agreement/disagreement strength accurate (not overstated)? Does the relationship come from the texts, not invented? Does my choice involve BOTH texts?

Watch out: two traps to dodge

misreads-one-text
Gets one text's position wrong, so the stated relationship between the texts is off.

overstated-agreement/disagreement
Claims the texts agree or disagree more strongly than they actually do.

Name the trap before you pick — most wrong answers are one of these two.

Try it, then watch the walk-through

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Watch the walk-through