

## How can you develop a strong analysis of a selection?

Analysis means to break down into parts. The parts might be individuals in a story or specific ideas in an argument or other components. One way to analyze a text is to use the following two strategies. You will see them in action here one by one.

**Strategy 1:** Identify what the text says explicitly and cite textual evidence to support your view.

**Strategy 2:** Identify what the text says implicitly and cite textual evidence to support your view.

**Strategy 1:** Identify what the text says explicitly and cite textual evidence to support your view.

Explicit information includes statements that the writer states clearly and that most readers would agree on. Some examples are

- facts about events
- statements by individuals
- comments by a narrator or the writer

## Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

**Directions:** Analyze the excerpt on the following screen by breaking it down into important ideas and identifying what is explicitly said. Use the chart on the screens following the excerpt to help you organize your analysis.

Personally, I love Crazy Horse because even the most basic outline of his life shows how great he was; because he remained himself from the moment of his birth to the moment he died . . . because no photograph of him exists; because he is not the Indian on the nickel, the tobacco pouch, or the apple crate.

*continued*

## Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Crazy Horse was a slim man of medium height with brown hair hanging below his waist and a scar above his lip. Now in the mind of each person who imagines him, he looks different.

Except from *Great Plains* (pages 54–55)

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the explicit meaning of the following excerpts.

Statement	Explicit Meaning
I love Crazy Horse because even the most basic outline of his life shows how great he was;	
because he remained himself from the moment of his birth to the moment he died	

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your response may look like this.

Statement	Explicit Meaning
I love Crazy Horse because even the most basic outline of his life shows how great he was;	The main events of Crazy Horse's life show he was a great man.
because he remained himself from the moment of his birth to the moment he died	He was always true to himself; he didn't change.

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the explicit meaning of the following excerpts.

Statement	Explicit Meaning
because he is not the Indian on the nickel, the tobacco pouch, or the apple crate.	
Now in the mind of each person who imagines him, he looks different.	

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your answers may look like this.

Statement	Explicit Meaning
because he is not the Indian on the nickel, the tobacco pouch, or the apple crate.	Crazy Horse was not like the stereotypical Indian figure used to advertise products.
Now in the mind of each person who imagines him, he looks different.	Because there are no photos of Crazy Horse, each person has a different idea of what he looks like.

**Strategy 2:** Identify what the text says implicitly and cite textual evidence to support your view.

Implicit information includes everything that a reader infers from a text. This often includes

- the motivation for an individual's actions
- the significance of a plot development
- the theme of a piece of writing

Since implicit information is not stated clearly, various readers are more likely to disagree about it than they are about explicit information.

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the implicit meaning of the following excerpts.

Statement	Implicit Meaning
I love Crazy Horse because even the most basic outline of his life shows how great he was;	
because he remained himself from the moment of his birth to the moment he died	

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your response may look like this.

Statement	Implicit Meaning
I love Crazy Horse because even the most basic outline of his life shows how great he was;	The writer believes that even the most basic things that Crazy Horse did were amazing.
because he remained himself from the moment of his birth to the moment he died	Crazy Horse was a free-spirit who didn't live by other people's rules, but by his own inner compass.

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the implicit meaning of the following excerpts.

Statement	Implicit Meaning
because he is not the Indian on the nickel, the tobacco pouch, or the apple crate	
Now in the mind of each person who imagines him, he looks different.	

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your response might look like this.

Statement	Implicit Meaning
because he is not the Indian on the nickel, the tobacco pouch, or the apple crate	Crazy Horse was unique. He doesn't fit the stereotypes of "Indians."
Now in the mind of each person who imagines him, he looks different.	Each person has the freedom to create their own image of him. This adds to the man's legend.

## Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

**Directions:** On the following screens is an excerpt from *Hamish Mactavish Is Eating a Bus* by Gordon Korman. In the story, the narrator, Warren, doesn't get along with his brother Chase, who always seems to be better at school and sports than he is. Warren is surprised by Chase's oral presentation on heroes.

Normally, no one would volunteer, and the teacher would have to pick somebody. But this time there was a hand raised in our social studies class. Most amazing of all, it belonged to Chase the Disgrace. I couldn't believe it. My brother would never put his image on the line and be first at something. . . .

"Most people think of heroes as winners," Chase read from his notes, "but I'm not convinced that's always true. . . . The person I picked isn't always successful, but he's heroic because he never gives up when a lot of us would.

*continued*

That person is my brother Warren.” . . . My jaw was hanging around my knees, as Chase went on about my strength of character and my resilience; how others fell to pieces when the cards didn’t come up aces, while I was always ready to do my best with the two of clubs. . . .

“This doesn’t mean I like you,” I managed finally.

He [Chase] stuck out his jaw. “You either.”

“Of course you’re not such a bad guy,” I added quickly.

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the explicit and implicit meaning of the excerpt.

Statement	Explicit Meaning	Implicit Meaning
My brother would never put his image on the line and be first at something.		

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your response may look like this.

Statement	Explicit Meaning	Implicit Meaning
My brother would never put his image on the line and be first at something.	Warren is surprised that his brother volunteers to give his presentation first.	Warren thinks his brother is overly concerned with his image or appearing to be popular.

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the explicit and implicit meaning of the excerpt.

Statement	Explicit Meaning	Implicit Meaning
My jaw was hanging around my knees, as Chase went on about my strength of character and my resilience		

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your response may look like this.

Statement	Explicit Meaning	Implicit Meaning
My jaw was hanging around my knees, as Chase went on about my strength of character and my resilience	Warren was surprised by Chase's kind words.	Warren always believed that Chase didn't like him, so Chase's kind words shock him.

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Explain the explicit and implicit meaning of the excerpt.

Statement	Explicit Meaning	Implicit Meaning
<p>“This doesn’t mean I like you,” I managed finally.</p> <p>He stuck out his jaw. “You either.”</p> <p>“Of course you’re not such a bad guy,” I added quickly.</p>		

# Analyzing Selections

Cluster 2 page 44

Your response may look like this.

Statement	Explicit Meaning	Implicit Meaning
<p>“This doesn’t mean I like you,” I managed finally.</p> <p>He stuck out his jaw.</p> <p>“You either.”</p> <p>“Of course you’re not such a bad guy,” I added quickly.</p>	<p>In spite of Chase’s kind words about him, Warren refuses to admit that he likes his brother.</p>	<p>Warren has been touched by Chase’s words, but he doesn’t want to admit he is wrong or to appear weak. He really does appreciate his brother.</p>