

Anticipation-Reaction Guide: English Language Arts Sample

Before reading: Think about whether you agree or disagree with each statement written below. Tell why or why not.

During reading: Look for evidence that supports or presents a counterargument for each statement. Write your evidence in the Evidence column and record the page number where you found it.

Statement	Reader's Opinion	Evidence	Page	Discussion	Reader's Conclusion
1. Livestock (cows, sheep, goats, pigs) should be raised only for supplying food to people.	I agree because I have seen animals raised on a ranch.	Zlateh, the goat, is used for her fur as well as her milk. When she and Aaron get caught in a snowstorm, Zlateh is Aaron's companion, source of warmth, and friend.	484, 485, 486	The text evidence contradicts the statement. I changed my opinion because I saw how the goat provided more than food.	Although livestock are primarily raised for food, they can provide many other things to humans, such as warmth and companionship.
2. No one can help you but yourself. In times of trouble, you can count on only you.	I disagree because I have a friend I know I can count on.	Zlateh helps Aaron quite a bit. The goat keeps him company in a storm, keeps him warm, and helps to ease his hunger.	484, 485, 486	The text evidence supports the statement because Zlateh was there for Aaron, just like my friend is there for me.	We are not always alone in facing trouble. Friends, family—even animals—can help us.
3. Sometimes, we do not realize the value of what we have.	I agree because Theodore Taylor from "The Cay" is like this, and so are some people in real life.	Although Aaron loved Zlateh, he was willing to give her to the butcher for slaughter. But when she saves him in the biggard, he never thinks of giving her away again.	487	The text supports the statement because Aaron didn't realize how much Zlateh was worth until the storm.	Sometimes we do not realize the value of what we have until something happens to open our eyes to it.
4. Animals can communicate as well as humans can.	I agree because we learned about dolphin communication in science class.	Zlateh says only one word, but she loves and trusts her people and she helps them as best she can, as shown by the way she comes to Aaron's rescue in the storm.	484, 485, 486, 487	The text supports the statement because Zlateh shows her loyalty and love by helping Aaron.	Although animals may not speak with words like humans do, they can communicate through their actions.

After reading: Discuss how the evidence relates to your opinion. State your conclusion about the statement, using the text evidence.

Text source: Singer, I. B. (2001). *Zlateh the goat and other stories*. New York: Michael Di Capua Books.

TEKS information on the next page.

English Language Arts TEKS

Grades 6–8

Reading/Comprehension Skills (Figure 19).

Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author’s message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:

- (A) establish purposes for reading selected texts based upon own or others’ desired outcome to enhance comprehension;
- (D) make complex inferences about text and use textual evidence to support understanding

Grade 6:

(18) Writing/Persuasive Texts. Students write persuasive texts to influence the attitudes or actions of a specific audience on specific issues. Students are expected to write persuasive essays for appropriate audiences that establish a position and include sound reasoning, detailed and relevant evidence, and consideration of alternatives.

Grades 7–8:

(18) Writing/Persuasive Texts. Students write persuasive texts to influence the attitudes or actions of a specific audience on specific issues. Students are expected to write a persuasive essay to the appropriate audience that:

- (B) considers and responds to the views of others and anticipates and answers reader concerns and counter-arguments

SOURCE: TEA, 2008a.