

Some WASL success tips include:

1. Underlining the "key" words in the questions (e.g., [What is the most noticeable feature of the new \\$100 bill?](#) or [Mirra says that Gahan is honest. What two examples of his honesty do you see in the story?](#)) ***Just the process of slowing down enough to underline can help you clarify in your mind exactly what the question is really asking.***
2. Pay close attention to any **bolded words** in the constructed response items (ones they are required to write answers to). These *bolded words tell you how many pieces of evidence you need to write to support what you say in your answer.*
3. It is *not enough* to just offer your opinion in a response. You must **provide specific evidence from the text** to support what you say. This is why it is so important to go back into the text to find the answers, not rely on your memory alone after you read.
4. **It is always better to provide more support than what is asked for.**
5. You should paraphrase the words used in the text that they offer as support. It is generally not enough to just lift a sentence from the text as evidence. Also, it is helpful to be as clear as possible when responding. You need to **tell why the support you offer is evidence.**
6. Once you answer the constructed response questions, go back into their answers and underline the pieces of support from the text that you have included. (Example: [He was honest about what he thought. Like when Tierno asked Gahan what he was thinking of in the water, he said air. He told Mirra the truth when she asked him if he had learned wisdom.](#))
7. **Multiple Choice items are worth 1 point each, short answer responses are worth 2 points each, and extended response items are worth 4 points each.** Multiple choice items make up approximately 50% of the test. Even though there are more multiple choice items, they do not account for the majority of the test points – the constructed responses do. It is very important that you attempt to answer each of the constructed response items, even if you aren't sure of the correct answers.