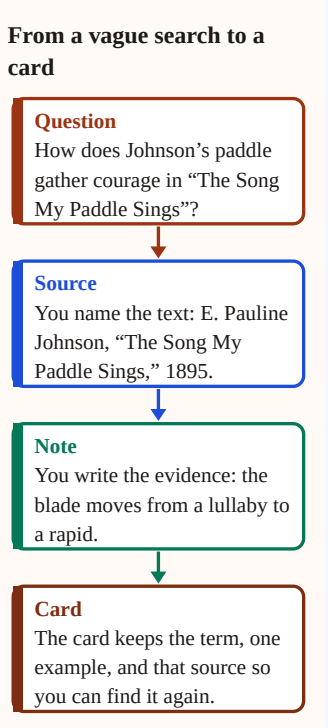
English Language Arts 10-1

Unit 2: Comprehend and respond to texts

Reference strategies

A question too broad for a search

- A student wants to know how the paddle gathers courage in E. Pauline Johnson’s 1895 poem “The Song My Paddle Sings.” The first search, “poetry stuff about hidden meaning,” is too wide for the catalogue.
- Question. How does Johnson’s paddle gather courage in “The Song My Paddle Sings”?
- Source. You name the text: E. Pauline Johnson, “The Song My Paddle Sings,” 1895.
- Note. You write the evidence: the paddle blade moves from soft lullaby lines to a rapid, a stretch of fast rough water.
- Card. The card keeps the term, one example, and that source so you can find it again.



Research notes

- A reference strategy includes the question, the tool, and the note you leave for yourself.
- A works-cited line has the author and the title so the text can be found again.
- A personalized glossary uses your words plus one example from a text you have actually read.

Key terms

reference strategy

A deliberate way of looking something up or recording it so a future reading is easier, such as a refined question or a note with a source.

works cited

A list of the texts and sources a writer actually used, with enough detail for someone else to find them.

personalized glossary

Your own list of terms and definitions, written in words you can reuse on the next text.

Model card for subtext

- Term: subtext. In my words: a meaning the details suggest beyond the stated events.
- Example: Mina's unfinished decision about the bell suggests she wants to go back, in the bus-window paragraph.
- Source: class text, Bus Window paragraph. Related work to follow: Johnson, "The Song My Paddle Sings," in the book Flint and Feather.

Worked note with a citation

- A student asks how the paddle gathers courage in E. Pauline Johnson’s 1895 poem “The Song My Paddle Sings.” The note says the paddle blade moves from soft lullaby lines to the rough water of a rapid.
- Works cited: Johnson, E. Pauline. “The Song My Paddle Sings.” The book Flint and Feather. 1912.
- The note and the citation stay on the same card so the line can be found again.

Practice card for archetype

- In the kitchen story, Mina keeps the house ready for Leo and checks the hook when she hears the kettle. A classmate calls her a caretaker, a familiar character pattern.
- Write a glossary card for archetype: your definition, Mina as the example, the class story as the source, and one place you could find another caretaker.

Review

- Amira stands under one floodlight at the empty rink and tells the dark boards she is fine. The sentences stay quiet.
- Create a glossary entry for tone: your definition, one example phrase, a source line, and one place you would look next.