

HOW TO UNDERSTAND A WRITING PROMPT

1. Read the prompt and circle the prompt's main verbs (the DO).
2. Underline the details (the WHAT) that follow each main verb.
3. Write the main verbs into the small arrows on the left.
4. Write the corresponding details into the large arrows on the right.
5. Plan and write a response that will DO WHAT the prompt asks you to do!

Here is an example using a PARCC Grade 10 Prose Constructed Response:

Use what you have learned from reading "Daedalus and Icarus" by Ovid and "To a Friend Whose Work Has Come to Triumph" by Anne Sexton to write an essay that analyzes how Icarus's experience of flying is portrayed differently in the two texts. Develop your essay by providing textual evidence from both texts. Be sure to follow the conventions of standard English.



DO

WHAT?

[main
verb]

[details]

