

RUBRIC - PARCC QUESTION FORMAT FOR COMPOSING A SUMMARY

Identifying and then summarizing the most important points in a passage into chronological order

This question format builds upon the process of identifying “key details” in a text as opposed to extraneous information.

The student is given up to nine possible excerpts (each usually indicated by a *verb* in the excerpt) that constitute a sequence of events that can be turned into a “summary.”

The student is then required to select *only* the *most significant* four or more of the selections and place them in chronological order. The student can click and drag the excerpts into boxes or perhaps just list the numbers of the excerpts in their summary order. Not all the selections are used.

- 1: Excerpt
- 2: Excerpt
- 3: Excerpt
- 4: Excerpt
- 5: Excerpt
- 6: Excerpt
- 7: Excerpt
- 8: Excerpt
- 9: Excerpt

TASK DESCRIPTION: Student must compose a **summary** (*the main points of something, usually in chronological order*) in a passage of text. In order to do this, the student must distinguish between what is a **main idea** (*the most important thought(s) the author is trying to communicate*) from the **key details** (*those specific elements in the text that support the main idea or expand upon it*) and ignore information that does not contribute to the purpose behind what is written. A **narrative** (*story*) summary can be thought of as a “storyboard” or “scenario” which illustrate the most important *actions* taken by the characters.

PERFORMANCE EXCELLENT COMPETENT NEEDS WORK

Student understands the meaning of each key term noted in the task description	Student can explain and demonstrate the <i>meaning</i> of each key term	Student can provide an adequate definition of each key term	Student cannot provide definitions of key terms aligned to common core usage.
Student composes a summary following the guidelines delineated in the task description.	Student selects, and puts in proper order, the correct selections and can explain “why.”	Student can select and put into proper order, the most significant selections.	Student cannot select the most significant selections.

PRACTICE: Have the student summarize what he or she did the day before. Or, have the student summarize the essential elements of a favorite video game. Or, have the student summarize the key plot points of a half-hour (22 minutes of actual running time without commercials) of a sitcom.