

Vertical Progression:

7th Grade	<p>RL 7.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.</p>
8th Grade	<p>RL 8.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.</p>
9th-10th Grade	<p>RL 9-10.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.</p>
11th-12th Grade	<p>RL 11-12.2 Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.</p>

Students will demonstrate command of the Standard by:

- Describing the relationship between central ideas and specific details.
- Determining a theme or central idea of a text
- Analyzing how authors reveal, shape, and refine a theme or convey the central idea, utilizing specific details.
- Creating an objective summary (excluding personal opinions)

Vocabulary:

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|
| • Analyze | • Emerge | • Summary |
| • Central idea | • Objective | • Text |
| • Detail | • Refine | • Theme |
| • Determine | • Shape | |
| • Development | • Summarize | |

Question Stems:

- What is the theme or central idea?
- Which detail or event first presented an indication of the theme?

- Identify additional details that shaped the theme or central passage.
- How can you objectively summarize the text?
- What is the theme of _____ (text title)? How does the author develop this theme over the course of the text? Use examples from the text to support your analysis.
- What is the central idea of _____ (text title)? How does the author develop this idea over the course of the text? Use examples from the text to support your analysis.
- How is the theme of the story/novel/drama/poem shaped and refined by specific details? Use examples from the text to support your analysis.
- Summarize the story/drama/poem objectively.

PARCC Evidence Statement:

- Provides a statement of a theme or central idea of a text.
- Provides an analysis of how a theme or central idea emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details over the course of the text.
- Provides an objective summary of a text.

Sample Instructional/Assessment Tasks:

1. PARCC – [9th Grade Practice Test Items](#)

◆ **Question 3 - Part A** ([link](#))

Passage ([link](#))

Which statement best describes a central theme of the story?

- A. Leaving home is a common rite of passage that can be marked by a variety of emotions.
- B. People who choose to pursue a new life elsewhere can cause resentment in those who stay behind.
- C. Leaving familiar surroundings can prompt one to place added importance on family and friends.
- D. Major life changes are generally accompanied by a focus on important events in one's life.

Correct Answer: A

◆ **Question 6 - Part A** ([link](#))

Passages (1st passage [link](#) and 2nd passage [link](#))

Which is a theme reflected in both the passage from "Departure" and the passage from "Up the Coolly"?

- A. Nature can provide a peaceful place for reflection.
- B. Sometimes it is comforting to be left alone.
- C. There is often a vast difference between memory and reality.
- D. One's upbringing can greatly impact relationships with others.

Correct Answer: A

◆ **Question 26 - Part A** ([link](#))

Passage ([link](#))

Which sentence states a theme the author develops over the course of the story?

- A. One's first instincts should always be trusted.
- B. Acting on one's fears can cause them to come true.
- C. Old friends can quickly turn into new enemies.
- D. The unexpected should always be expected.

Correct Answer: B

◆ **Question 30 - Part A** ([link](#)) **Passage** ([link](#))

Select a central theme of the passage.

- A. It is important to prepare in advance for potential challenges.
- B. Different people can view particular situations in very different ways.
- C. It is sometimes impossible to remain hopeful when confronting certain difficulties.
- D. Those who truly enjoy music are able to share their pleasure with others.

Correct Answer: B

2. **Achieve the Core – [Grade 10 Literature Mini-Assessment](#)**

◆ **Question 7**

What is the central idea of this excerpt from *Julius Caesar*?

- A. Antony attempts to manipulate the crowd to mutiny against those who killed Caesar.
- B. Antony wishes to be allowed to secure Caesar’s body for a proper burial.
- C. Antony praises the actions of Brutus and explains the reasons that Caesar was killed.
- D. Antony wants to establish himself as the new ruler to fill the position created by Caesar’s death.

Correct Answer: A

3. **PSAT – [Practice Test #1 Items](#)**

◆ **Question 2**

Which choice best summarizes the first two paragraphs of the passage (lines 1-14)?

- A) Even though a character loses a parent at an early age, she is happily raised in a loving home.
- B) An affectionate governess helps a character to overcome the loss of her mother, despite the indifference of her father.
- C) Largely as a result of her father’s wealth and affection, a character leads a contented life.
- D) A character has a generally comfortable and fulfilling life, but then she must recover from losing her mother.

Correct Answer: A