

Taking Notes and Listing Sources

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 10



Quick Review

When you research, take **SHORT** notes in your own words (paraphrase), group them by subtopic, and record the **SOURCE** for each fact: author, title, date, and publisher or website.

PRACTICE

Choose or write the **BEST** answer for each item.

1. The source says:

“The Pacific Ocean covers more area than all of Earth's land combined.”

Which is the **BEST PARAPHRASE** for your notes?

- A. Pacific Ocean = bigger area than ALL Earth's land combined
 - B. The Pacific Ocean covers more area than all of Earth's land combined.
 - C. Pacific Ocean = the largest body of water in the world
 - D. Pacific Ocean = bigger than the Atlantic Ocean
2. Which note is **COPIED** rather than paraphrased?
- A. Bee dance = communication tool for hive
 - B. “Honeybees do a special dance called a waggle dance to share information about where flowers are located,” the article says.
 - C. Honeybees use a waggle dance to share where flowers are.
 - D. Bee waggle dance → tells direction + distance of flowers
3. Which is the **BEST** way to **ORGANIZE** your notes for a multi-source project?
- A. one big paragraph with everything you've read mixed together
 - B. a single stack of unlabeled sticky notes in random order
 - C. a list of every quotation, sorted by which one is longest
 - D. a chart with columns for **SUBTOPIC**, **FACT**, and **SOURCE**
4. When you list a **BOOK** as a source, which set of details is **MOST IMPORTANT**?
- A. the cover color, the font size, and the number of pages
 - B. the number of pictures and where you bought the book
 - C. the author, title, publisher, and year published
 - D. the name of the bookstore and the shelf it sat on



5. When you list a WEBSITE as a source, which details are MOST useful?
 - A. the article title, the author or organization, the date, and the URL
 - B. the page's background color and font
 - C. the number of ads on the page
 - D. how long the page took to load
6. Which is the BEST way to GROUP a stack of mixed notes about whales?
 - A. leave them in the order you wrote them down so nothing gets lost
 - B. sort by SUBTOPIC (e.g., diet, habitat, communication, migration)
 - C. sort by the color of the pen you used
 - D. sort by length of each note, shortest to longest
7. You find the SAME FACT in three different reliable sources. This means —
 - A. you should ignore the fact because three sources is too many.
 - B. two of the sources must be wrong because they don't agree.
 - C. the fact is probably trustworthy and well-supported.
 - D. you should pick only one source and forget the other two.
8. Which is a GOOD note that records BOTH the fact AND the source?
 - A. Penguins waddle a lot.
 - B. I saw a video about penguins last weekend.
 - C. Penguins are really cute — my friend said so.
 - D. Emperor penguins can dive over 1,800 feet (Smithsonian Ocean, 2022).

9. Read this source sentence:

“Sea otters use small rocks as tools to crack open clams and other shellfish.”

Write a PARAPHRASED note in your own words (keyword style, not a full sentence).

10. You used a book by Maria Lopez called *Rivers of the World*, published in 2021 by GreenLeaf Press. Write a single SOURCE LINE for your project that lists all the important details.



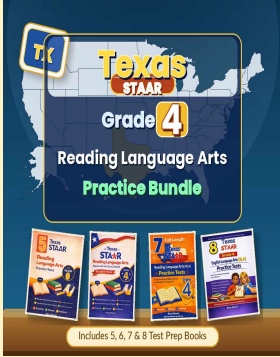
Answer Keys

<p>1 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>2 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>5 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p>	<p>6 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>7 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>8 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>9 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p> <p>10 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p>
--	--

Explanations	
1. A	A keeps the FULL MEANING in short keyword form. B is copied word-for-word. C is true but CHANGES the source's specific claim (land vs. other oceans). D ADDS a claim about the Atlantic that isn't in the source.
2. B	B is a DIRECT QUOTATION pulled straight from the article with quotation marks. A, C, and D all paraphrase by re-wording the idea in shorter form.
3. D	D groups by meaning AND tracks each fact's source — the structure researchers actually use. A loses track of subtopics, B loses track of everything, and C sorts by an unhelpful feature (length).
4. C	Author, title, publisher, and year identify the WORK so any reader can find it. A, B, and D describe the physical copy or shopping experience, not the source itself.
5. A	Title, author/organization, date, and URL identify the WEB source. B, C, and D describe the page's appearance or speed — none of those identify what was published or by whom.
6. B	Subtopic grouping prepares each section of your draft. A loses organization, C uses a feature unrelated to meaning, and D groups by an unhelpful measure.
7. C	Independent agreement across multiple sources STRENGTHENS a fact. A, B, and D each misread the situation by treating multiple matching sources as a problem.
8. D	D records a SPECIFIC fact AND cites a clear source with date. A has no source and is vague, B has no fact, and C has no source and is opinion.
9.	Answer: Examples: (1) Sea otters → use rocks as tools to open clams + shellfish. (2) Sea otter = tool-user (rocks → cracks clams/shellfish). Accept any short, accurate paraphrase that (a) keeps the meaning (otters use rocks to open shellfish) and (b) uses keywords rather than the source's exact wording. NOT acceptable: copying the sentence, dropping the tool idea, or adding ideas (<i>otters are the smartest animals</i>).
10.	Answer: Examples: (1) Lopez, Maria. <i>Rivers of the World</i> . GreenLeaf Press, 2021. (2) Maria Lopez, <i>Rivers of the World</i> (GreenLeaf Press, 2021). Accept any source line that includes ALL FOUR ELEMENTS: author, title, publisher, and year. Punctuation order may vary. NOT acceptable: a citation that drops the year, drops the publisher, or omits the author.



Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other Texas STAAR ELA Test Books!




Includes 5, 6, 7 & 8 Test Prep Books

Texas STAAR Grade 4 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

No repeated questions — maximum practice value!

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books

26 Tests!
4 Books
One Bundle

Important: All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

<h4>5 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations ✓ Perfect foundation for STAAR ELA prep ✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills ✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Start your practice journey!</p>	<h4>6 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations ✓ Unique tests — different from the 5 tests book ✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests ✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Take your practice to the next level!</p>	<h4>7 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation ✓ Unique tests — different from 5 and 6 tests books ✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice ✓ Aligned to Grade 4 STAAR ELA standards <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Maximum preparation power!</p>	<h4>8 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book ✓ Unique tests — different from 5, 6 and 7 books ✓ Great for final review before test day ✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Be fully prepared!</p>
---	--	---	---

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.