

# CAART IT

We use **CAART IT** to understand informational text!



**C**



## CENTRAL IDEA AND DETAILS

What is the text mostly about?  
What details support it?

**A**



## AUTHORS PURPOSE

Why did the author write this text?  
To inform, explain, entertain, or persuade?

**A**



## ARGUMENT

What is the author trying to convince the reader of?

**R**



## REASONS

What reasons does the author give to support the argument?

**T**



## TEXT STRUCTURE AND FEATURES

How is the information organized? What text features help you understand?

Good readers use **CAART IT** to keep their cart rolling!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# KEY IDEAS & TEXT STRUCTURE

Directions: Read each category below. Then write your own explanation or example in the space provided.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. CENTRAL IDEA AND DETAILS</b><br>The central idea is the main point the author wants you to understand.<br>Details are facts, examples, or information that support the central idea.                                                                               | My Explanation or Example:<br><br>_____<br><br>_____<br><br>_____              |
| <b>2. AUTHOR'S PURPOSE</b><br>The author's purpose is the reason the author wrote the text.<br>The main purposes are to inform, to persuade, to entertain, or a mix.                                                                                                     | My Explanation or Example:<br><br>_____<br><br>_____<br><br>_____              |
| <b>3. ARGUMENT</b><br>An argument is a claim (what the author believes) supported by reasons and evidence.                                                                                                                                                               | My Explanation or Example:<br><br>_____<br><br>_____<br><br>_____              |
| <b>4. REASONS</b><br>Reasons are the statements that explain why the author's claim is true or important.                                                                                                                                                                | My Explanation or Example:<br><br>_____<br><br>_____<br><br>_____              |
| <b>5. TEXT STRUCTURE AND FEATURES</b><br>Text structure is how information is organized (such as cause/effect, compare/contrast, problem/solution).<br>Text features are parts of the text (like headings, bold words, charts, or captions) that help you understand it. | My Explanation or Example:<br><br>_____<br><br>_____<br><br>_____<br><br>_____ |



For **PROSE**  
(STORY) about  
a **CATT**!



REMEMBER:

# PCATT

5 key elements to look for in any story!



Great stories  
have all the  
elements! ♥



## P POINT OF VIEW

Who is  
telling the  
story?



Is it told in first  
person (I, me, we)  
or third person  
(he, she, they)?

## C CHARACTERS (CATT)



- Who is in the story?
- What are they like?
- What do they want?

## A SETTING (PLACE & TIME)



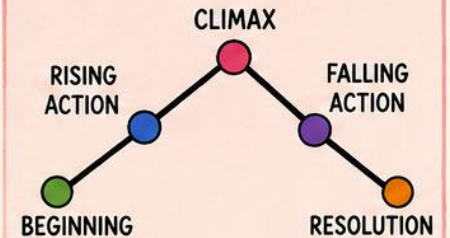
- Where does the story  
take place?
- When does the story  
take place?

## T THEME



- What is the big idea  
or lesson the author  
wants us to  
understand?

## T THE PLOT



- What happens in the story?
- Think of the main events  
from beginning to end.



GOOD READERS LOOK FOR **PCATT** IN EVERY STORY!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# 5 Key Elements of a Story

Understanding these five elements will help you better  
read, write, and think about stories!

|                                                                                                         |                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Point of View</b><br><br>The perspective from which a story is told.<br>Who is telling the story? | Who is telling the story? _____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____                                                   |
| <b>2. Characters</b><br><br>The people, animals, or creatures in the story.                             | Who are the main characters in the story? _____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____                                   |
| <b>3. Setting</b><br><br>The time and place where the story takes place.                                | Where and when does the story take place? _____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____                                   |
| <b>4. Theme</b><br><br>The main message, lesson, or idea in the story.                                  | What is the main message or lesson of the story? _____<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____                            |
| <b>5. Plot</b><br><br>The sequence of events that make up the story.                                    | Summarize the main events of the story in order.<br>1. _____<br>2. _____<br>3. _____<br>4. _____<br>5. _____ |

# Use **SSITT** and enjoy poetry.

**S**



## STRUCTURE

(lines, stanzas)

Look at how the poem is organized.

**S**



## SOUND

(repetition, onomatopoeia, alliteration, rhyming)

Listen to how the poem sounds.

**I**



## IMAGERY

Notice the words that create pictures in your mind.

**T**



## THEME

Think about the big idea or message of the poem.

**T**



## TONE

How does the poet's attitude or feeling come through?



Slow down.  
Think deeply.  
Feel the words.  
Enjoy the poem!

Great readers of poetry look closely, think deeply, and let the words inspire them. ♥

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# POETRY ELEMENTS

**Directions:** Write a definition in your own words and an example for each poetry element.

|                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>STRUCTURE</b><br/><b>(LINES, STANZAS)</b></p> <p>The way a poem is organized using lines and stanzas.</p>                              | <p>Definition (in your own words): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Example from a poem: _____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p><b>SOUND</b><br/><b>(REPETITION, ONOMATOPOEIA, ALLITERATION, RHYMING)</b></p> <p>The use of sound devices to create effect in a poem.</p> | <p>Definition (in your own words): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Example from a poem: _____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p><b>IMAGERY</b></p> <p>Words that create pictures in the reader's mind using the five senses.</p>                                          | <p>Definition (in your own words): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Example from a poem: _____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p><b>THEME</b></p> <p>The main message or big idea the poem is about.</p>                                                                   | <p>Definition (in your own words): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Example from a poem: _____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p><b>TONE</b></p> <p>The poet's attitude or the feeling a poem creates for the reader.</p>                                                  | <p>Definition (in your own words): _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Example from a poem: _____</p> <p>_____</p> |



# READING ROADMAP



What Good Readers Look For in Every Text!



## LITERATURE

### PCATT

Five Key Categories for Fiction

#### 1 POINT OF VIEW

Who is telling the story?

- First person
- Third person limited
- Third person omniscient



#### 2 CHARACTERS

Who is in the story?

- Traits
- Motivations
- Relationships
- Change over time



#### 3 SETTING

Where and when does the story happen?

- Place
- Time
- Mood
- Environment



#### 4 THEME

The lesson or message. Readers infer the theme using story events.



#### 5 PLOT

The sequence of events.



## INFORMATIONAL TEXT

### CAART IT

Five Important Categories for Informational Text

#### 1 CENTRAL IDEA & DETAILS

What is the text mostly about?

- Main idea
- Supporting facts, examples, and details



#### 2 AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Why did the author write it?

##### INFORM



To teach or give information.

##### PERSUADE



To convince or change your mind.

##### ENTERTAIN



To amuse or engage you.

#### 3 ARGUMENT

What claim is the author making?

- Opinion or position
- What the author wants you to believe



##### CLAIM

The author's main point or opinion.

#### 4 REASONS

Evidence that supports the argument.

- Facts
- Examples
- Expert opinions



FACTS



EXAMPLES



EXPERT OPINIONS



EVIDENCE

#### 5 TEXT STRUCTURE & FEATURES

##### TEXT STRUCTURES



Description



Compare/Contrast



Cause/Effect



Problem/Solution



Headings



Photos



Captions



Maps



Charts & Graphs



Bold Words



## POETRY

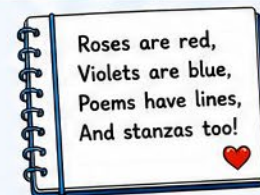
### SSITT

Five Key Categories for Poetry

#### 1 STRUCTURE

How is the poem organized?

- Lines
- Stanzas
- Shape and organization



#### 2 SOUND

How does the poem sound?

- Repetition
- Onomatopoeia
- Alliteration
- Rhyming



"sss"

Rain, rain, go away.

#### 3 IMAGERY

Words that create pictures in your mind. Appeals to the five senses:



SEE



HEAR



FEEL



SMELL



TASTE

#### 4 THEME

The poem's message or lesson. Often inferred—not directly stated.

What is the poem trying to say about life, people, nature, or the world?

#### 5 TONE

The poet's attitude toward the subject. Examples:



Happy



Sad



Serious



Playful



Angry



Peaceful



GOOD READERS NOTICE. THINK CRITICALLY. UNDERSTAND DEEPLY.

