

About Point Writing Response

What is About Point Writing Response and why is it important?

After learning to use the About Point strategy to understand the main ideas in a reading selection, students then can use About Point Writing Response (Carr, 2000) to organize their writing for a summary, an editorial, a character sketch, or other forms of writing.

How can I use About Point Writing Response with my students?

Ask students to write the topic (the About) in the left column. Then, ask them to write down the point the author or they are making about the topic (the Point). Next, have students write three details to support the About Point. Since this is an outline, students can use phrases to list their thoughts. Finally, ask students to write a closing that restates the About Point in different words. Students can then use the ideas in the outline as the basis for writing a summary.

An example of an About Point Writing Response outline and summary follows.

Planning Outline

About:	Thomas Jefferson
Point:	was an outstanding man
Supporting Details:	1. helped write the Declaration of Independence 2. was the third President of the United States 3. designed the University of Virginia and Monticello
Closing:	Thomas Jefferson did many things well.

Summary

Thomas Jefferson was an outstanding man. He helped write the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson also served as the third President of the United States. He designed the University of Virginia and his home, Monticello. Thomas Jefferson did many things well.



Name: _____ Date: _____



About Point Writing Response Planning Guide

Outline:	Summary:
<p data-bbox="128 363 233 395">About:</p> <p data-bbox="128 496 222 528">Point:</p> <p data-bbox="128 759 254 791">Details:</p> <ol data-bbox="128 834 163 1129" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="128 834 163 866">1.<li data-bbox="128 967 163 999">2.<li data-bbox="128 1099 163 1131">3. <p data-bbox="128 1232 254 1264">Closing:</p>	

Name: _____

Date: _____



About Point Writing Response Planning Guide

Outline	Summary:
<p data-bbox="124 415 225 449">About:</p> <p data-bbox="124 611 213 644">Point:</p> <p data-bbox="124 995 240 1029">Details:</p> <p data-bbox="124 1068 156 1102">1.</p> <p data-bbox="124 1264 156 1297">2.</p> <p data-bbox="124 1459 156 1493">3.</p> <p data-bbox="124 1654 245 1688">Closing:</p>	

