

# Text-Dependent Analysis

## Session 1

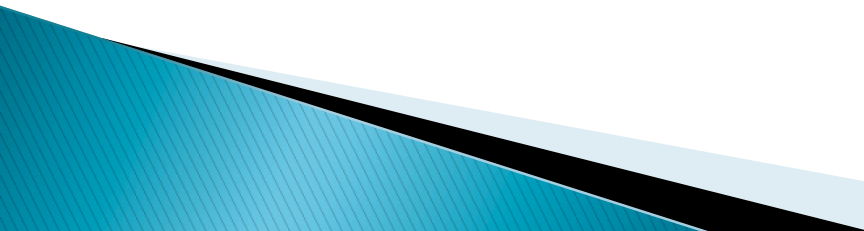
Misty L. Slavic



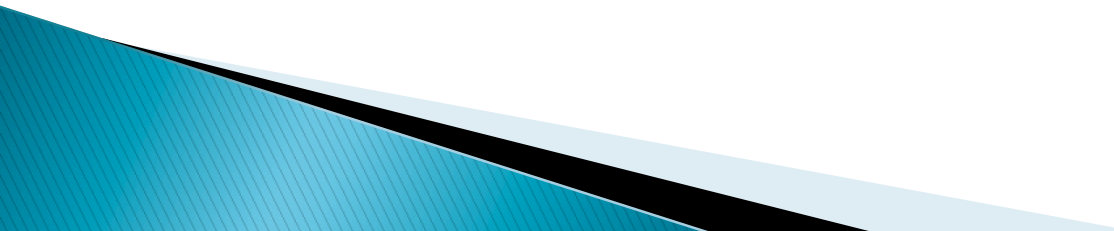
# Agenda

- ▶ Why the shift to Text-Dependent Analysis questioning?
- ▶ Understanding Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA)

# Three Shifts in PA Core

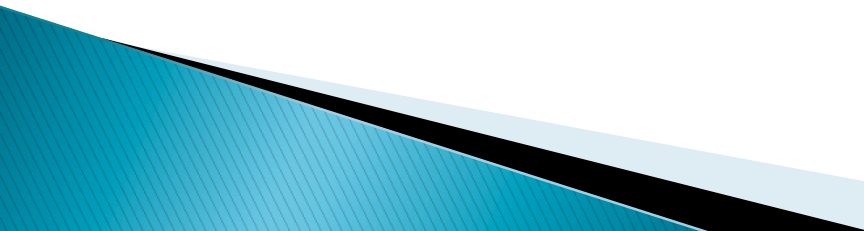
1. Regular practice with **complex text** and **academic language**
  2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text, both literary and instructional
  3. Building knowledge through **content-rich nonfiction**
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# Who does this affect?


- ▶ PSSA assessments for grades 4–8
  - ▶ Keystone questions are also in a similar format
  - ▶ 19% of a student's ELA score will be determined by the response on the TDA questions
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# What are TDA?

Text-Dependent Analysis questions ask a question that can only be answered by referring explicitly back to the text being read. These questions do not rely on any particular background information; instead these questions ask the reader to look at the text itself and what students can extract from it.

- ▶ Focusing on close and careful reading of text
  - ▶ Supporting writing from sources
  - ▶ Point students toward parts of the text most important to pay attention to
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# Instructional Time Check

- More instructional time spent outside the text means less time inside the text.
  - Departing from the text in classroom discussion privileges only those who already have experience with the topic.
  - It is easier to talk about our experiences than to analyze the text—especially for students reluctant to engage with reading.
  - The PA Core Standards are College and Career Readiness Standards.
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# What is the difference?

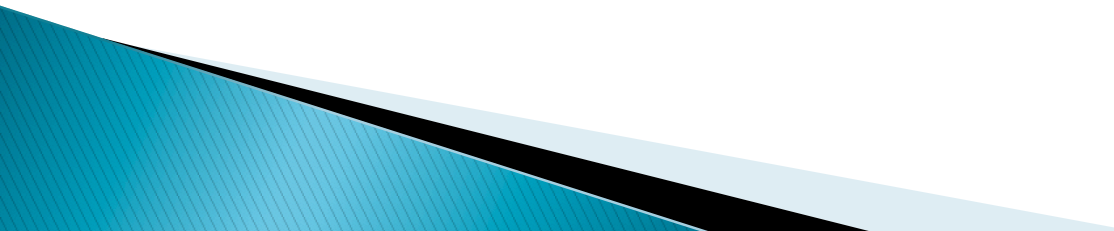
## PSSA Question from 2009–2014

Explain how the poem and the passage are similar, using at least three examples from the passage.

## PSSA Questions for 2015–


The passage and the poem address a similar theme. Write an essay analyzing how the passage and the poem develop this theme. Use evidence from both the passage and the poem to support your response

# You Try...TDA or Not...WHY?

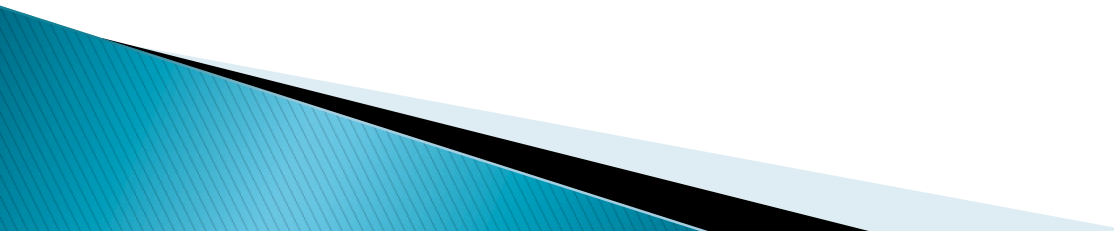
1. Why did the North fight the Civil War?
  2. Have you ever been to a funeral or grave site?
  3. Lincoln says that the nation is dedicated to the proposition that “all men are created equal.” Why is equality an important value to promote?
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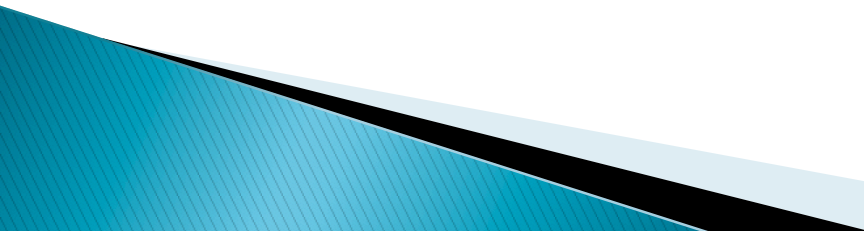
# Ask yourself these questions...

- ▶ Do students need to understand the text in order to answer these questions?
  - ▶ Does the student have to read the text to answer each question?
  - ▶ Is the answer to the question purely based on personal opinion?
  - ▶ Is the answer to the question only based on recalling specific facts?
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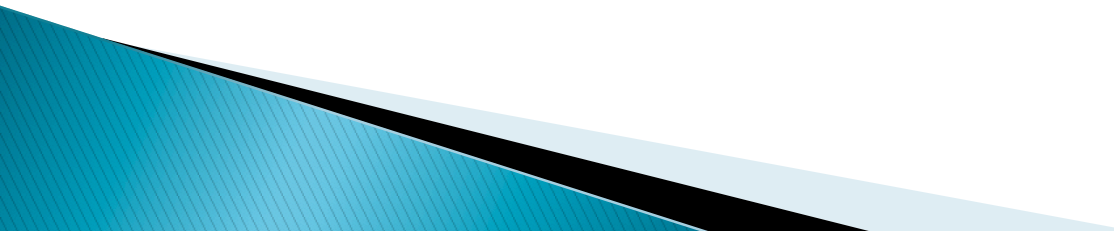
# TDA Questions are not...

- Low-level, literal, or recall questions
  - Focused on comprehension strategies
  - Just questions...
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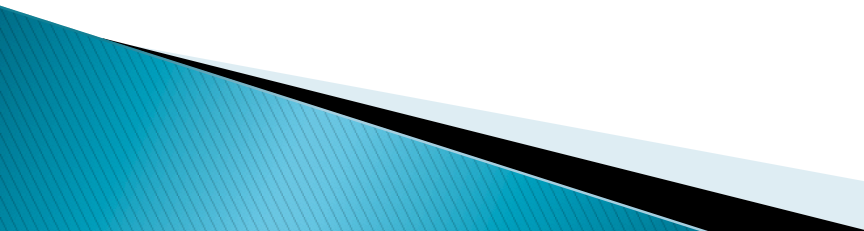
# TDA Questions...

- Can *only* be answered with evidence from the text.
  - Can be literal (checking for understanding) but must also involve analysis, synthesis, evaluation.
  - Focus on word, sentence, and paragraph, as well as larger ideas, themes, or events.
  - Focus on difficult portions of text in order to enhance reading proficiency.
  - Can also include prompts for writing and discussion questions.
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# Three Types of TDA Questions

- ▶ Questions that assess themes and central ideas
  - ▶ Questions that assess knowledge of vocabulary
  - ▶ Questions that assess syntax and structure
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# What instructional changes will lead to student success?

- ▶ Teachers insist that classroom experiences stay deeply connected to the text on the page and that students develop habits for making evidentiary argument both in conversation, as well as in writing, to assess comprehension of a text.
  - ▶ A deeper understanding of the vocabulary utilized in this form of questioning, and the ability to apply that vocabulary
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# References

"Achieve the Core." *Achievethecore.org*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Jan. 2015.

"SAS – Pennsylvania Department of Education Standards Aligned System." – *Pennsylvania Department of Education Standards Aligned System*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Jan. 2015.

"Understanding Text-Dependent Questions." *Center for Assessment*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Jan. 2015