PARCC QUESTION FORMAT Ib: If Part "A," Then Support in Part "B" – VOCABULARY

By Far the Most Prevalent Question Format Used for All Grade Levels for a LAT (Literary Analysis Task)

These questions involve vocabulary acquisition in the Part A, then Part B format construction

Part A Question: Select a domain-specific word that relates to a particular aspect of a work of art. The student is asked to match that word to one of four possible synonyms.

    a. Synonym or other hint
    b. Synonym or other hint
    c. Synonym or other hint
    d. Synonym or other hint

Comments: The key to this question type is for the student to look at the work of art that the domain-specific word is referring to. The work of art is the word's "context."   The aim here is for the student to figure out the *meaning* of the word and any device (including a synonym) can be used as an aid for understanding.

So, for example, what relative choices could one come up with for "*perspective*?" "Lines that meet together," "looking into the distance," "viewpoint." or for "*tempo*?" "speed," "pace," "cadence."

Part B Question: The student is provided with examples drawn from the work of art, one of which corresponds to the correct choice in Part A.

    a. Selected element from the work
    b. Selected element from the work
    c. Selected element from the work
    d. Selected element from the work

Comments: This can be formulated as an **EBSR** type question (**E**vidence **B**ased **S**elected **R**esponse). The student should look at the answer chosen in Part A and check it against the choices provided in Part B and see if they line up.

PRACTICE: The "context" that relates to an unfamiliar word will give clues as to the meaning. Thus, for *perspective* one could provide an image that has converging lines such as a Renaissance painting or architectural drawing. *Tempo* could be referenced by tempo markings on a page of sheet music such as "moderately fast" or "with a driving beat" – perhaps even Italian references to tempo such as "adagio" or "allegro."