PARCC QUESTION FORMAT FOR COMPOSING A SUMMARY

Identifying and then summarizing the most important points in a passage into chronological order

This question format builds upon the process of identifying "key details" in a text as opposed to extraneous information.

The student is given up to nine possible excerpts (each usually indicated by a *verb* in the excerpt) that constitute a sequence of events that can be turned into a "summary."

The student is then required to select *only* the *most significant* four or more of the selections and place them in chronological order. The student can click and drag the excerpts into boxes or perhaps just list the numbers of the excerpts in their summary order. Not all the selections are used.

1:   Excerpt

2:   Excerpt

3:   Excerpt

4:   Excerpt

5:   Excerpt

6:   Excerpt

7:   Excerpt

8:   Excerpt

9:   Excerpt

Comments: "Summary = The main points of something." This format is focused on having the student identify the key events in a narrative's *plot* (i.e. a sequence of action) and putting them in order from the excerpts provided.

This task is closely related to creating an "outline" or a "scenario" of what happens in a story. The easiest way to accomplish this is to look at the sequence of actions taken by a character by focusing in on the associated *verbs*. "The character did this, then that, followed by,...."

Line up the verbs, write out the associated actions and then match them to the selections in the question box.