**Released Test Stems for STAAR Grade 8 Reading**

* The author of this selection thinks that—
* The author uses the \_\_\_\_\_ [first, second, third, etc.] paragraph mostly to—
* Why does the author include paragraphs \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_?
* The author supports each of his arguments with—
* Which idea from paragraph \_\_\_\_\_ [paragraph number] does the author base on an assumption?
* What is the best summary of the selection?
* Why is the [map/photo/chart/etc.] included at the end of the selection?
* Which line from the play suggests that [the character in the selection feels or acts a certain way]?
* What can the reader conclude about [two different characters in a play] from their dialogue?
* Based on the dialogue in paragraphs \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_, how does [the character] first respond when [a second character] tells him/her [something]?
* Read the line from the excerpt.

The playwright includes this line in order to–

Place the dialogue and stage direction from the play in a box like this one.

* What do paragraphs \_\_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_\_ suggest about [a character in the play/selection]?
* How does [a character in the play/selection] deal with [a certain situation or information about another character]?
* The details used to describe [a certain character’s] ideas about [a feeling towards him/herself] are included to—
* What is the best summary of the excerpt?