

Cross Text Passages

Key Strategy:

Understanding the **main idea/claim** of both passages and understanding the **relationship** between the two passages.

5 Common Types of Relationships:

- Contradictory
- *Yes but....
- *No but...
- General/ Specific
- Objective/Subjective

*Most Difficult Relationships

Use the “BUT” formula when the passages are similar OR the author of passage two does not completely contradict the author of passage 1

STEPS:

Step 1

Read Passage 1:

- What is the claim/main idea in 3-6 words.
- What is the tone?

Read Passage 2:

- Answer the same two questions above

Step 2

What is the relationship between the two paragraphs? (Think about this as you read passage 2)

Step 3

If a “Yes, but...” or “No, but...” relationship, what is the **BUT**? (Must establish this before going to the question!)

Step 4

Answer the question. Make sure to read carefully! Sometimes a question might say, “How would the Author of **Passage 2** react to **Passage 1**?”. And, other times the question might say, “How would the author of **Passage 1** react to **Passage 2**?”. The SAT likes to trick you! Thus, read carefully and slowly!